



2011

DO YOU EVER MAKE
NEW YEAR'S
RESOLUTIONS?



ONLY
IF THEY ARE
BRITTLE AND
SHATTER AT THE
SLIGHTEST TOUCH.

Brooke

WHY?
HAVE YOU
MADE
ONE?



I FIND,
ON
OCCASION,
THAT I
LOOK AT
YOU AND
BEHOLD
ONLY AN
OBJECT
OF RAW,
POWERFUL,
OBSESSED
DESIRE,
A DESIRE
I CANNOT
MASTER.

MY RESOLUTION IS THAT
I SHALL NO LONGER GIVE IN
TO THIS VIEW ON OCCASION.
I AM GOING TO GIVE INTO IT
EVERY TIME. ...WILL YOU
REMIND ME IF MY MIND
EVER WANDERS?



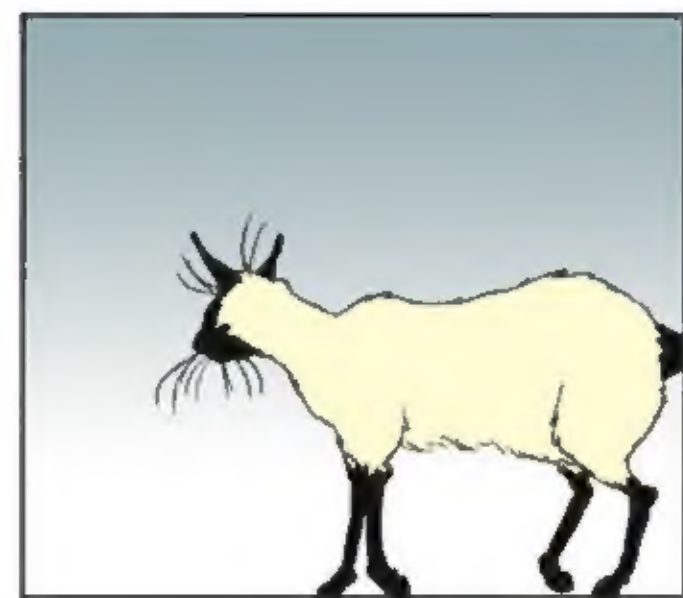
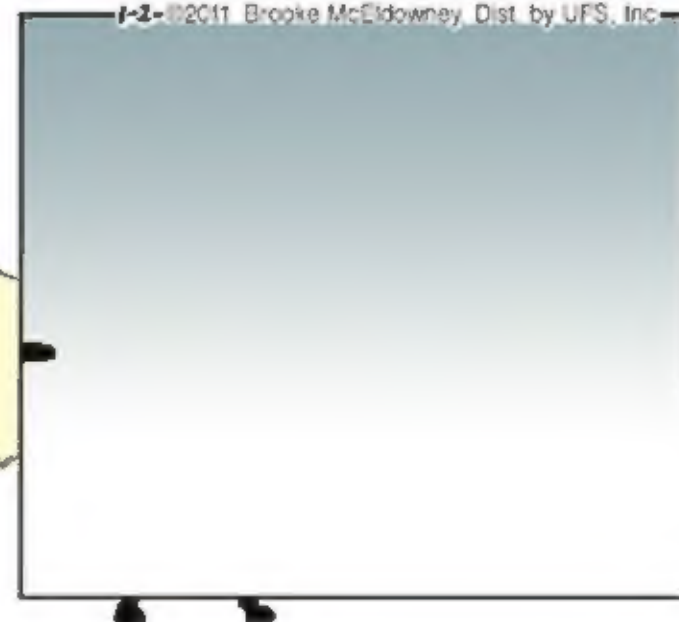
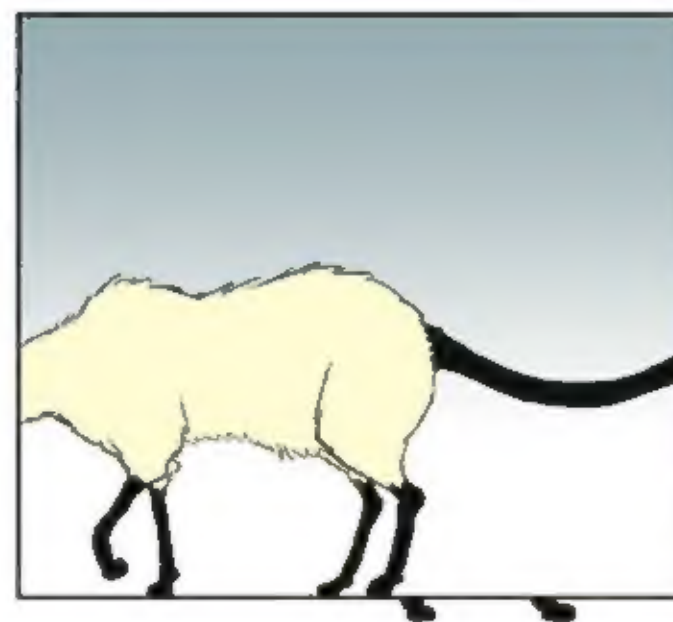
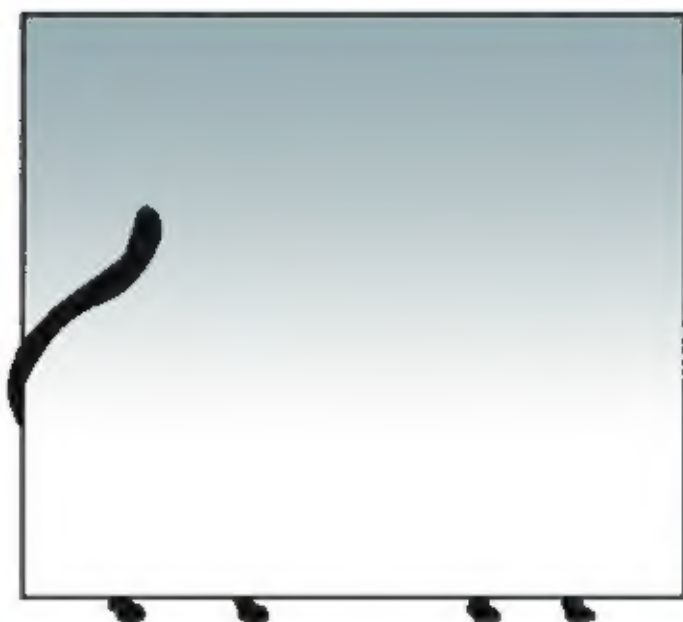
YOU
CAN
COUNT
ON
IT.

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1-1

AND MY NEW YEAR'S
RESOLUTION WILL BE
TO STOP LISTENING TO
STUPID CONVERSATIONS.









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I ONLY CAME TO
TALK TO YOU
BECAUSE I FELT
YOU NEEDED THE
SUPPORT AND
GUIDANCE.

I SEE...EDDA TELLS ME
YOU'RE A WONDERFUL,
NURTURING PERSON,
A MAN WHO STANDS
BY HIS CONVICTIONS
AND SPEAKS FROM
THE HEART. AND
YOU DO REALLY
SEEM TO BE
A NICE
GUY.

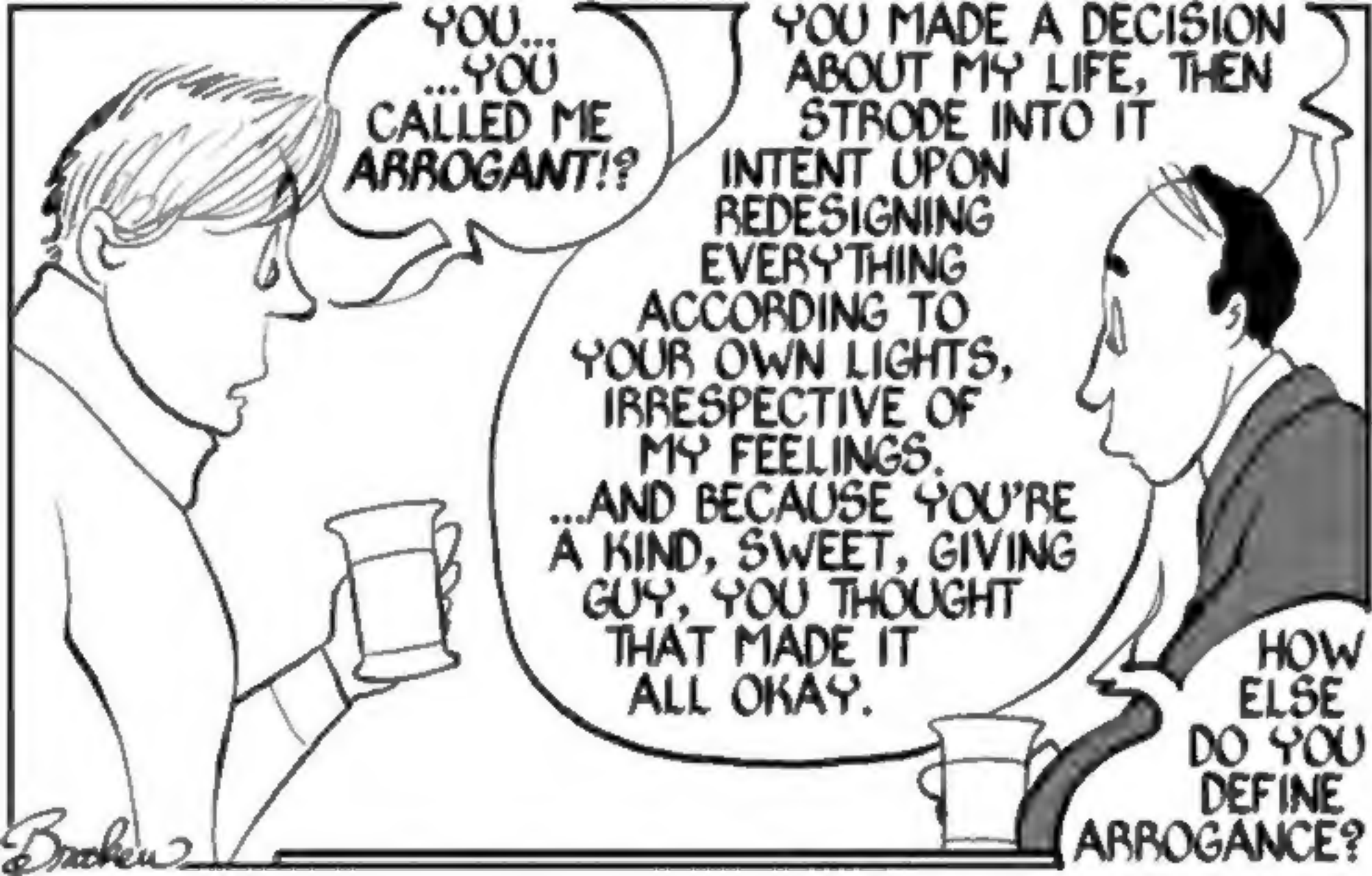
WELL,
THANK
YOU.



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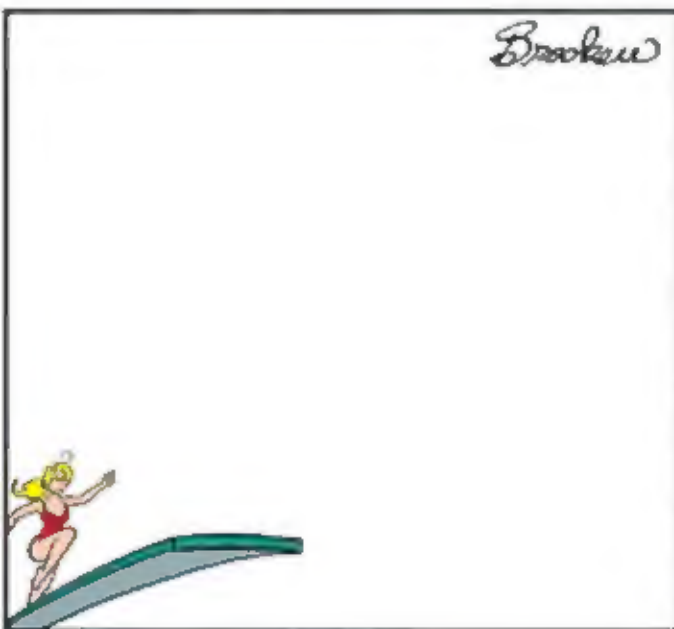
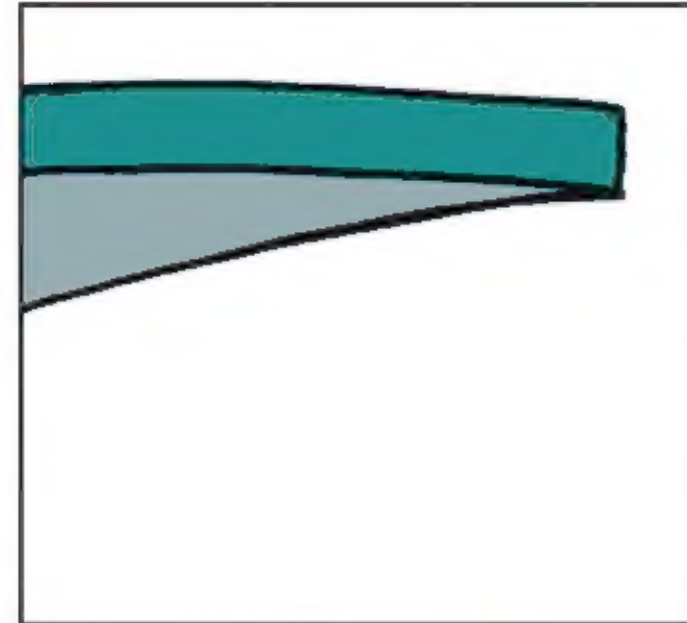
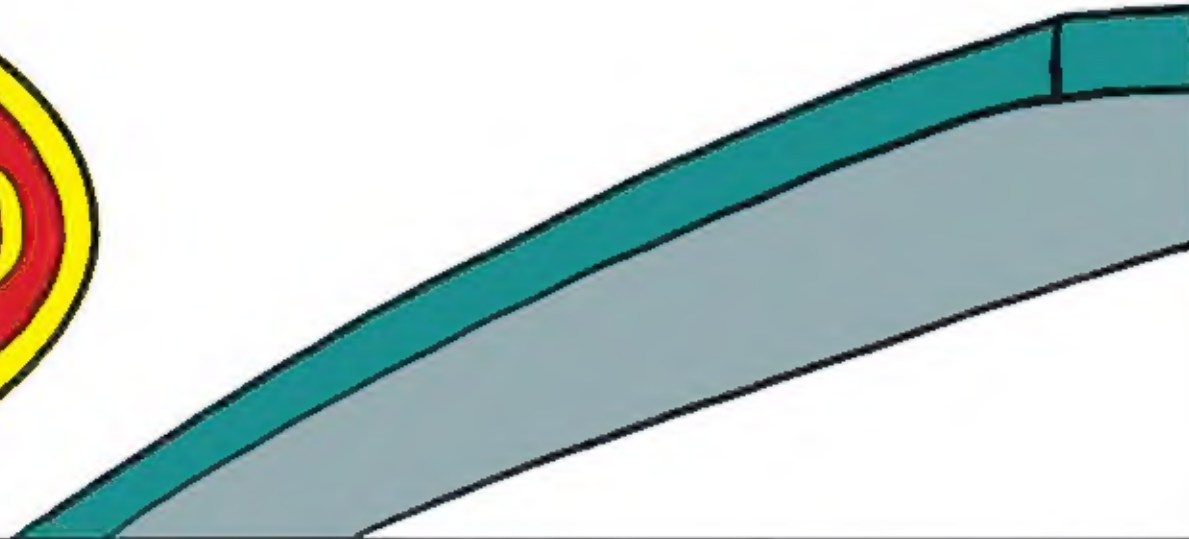


SO IS IT ALL THOSE SPECIAL
QUALITIES THAT EXCUSE
YOU FOR BEING
ARROGANT?



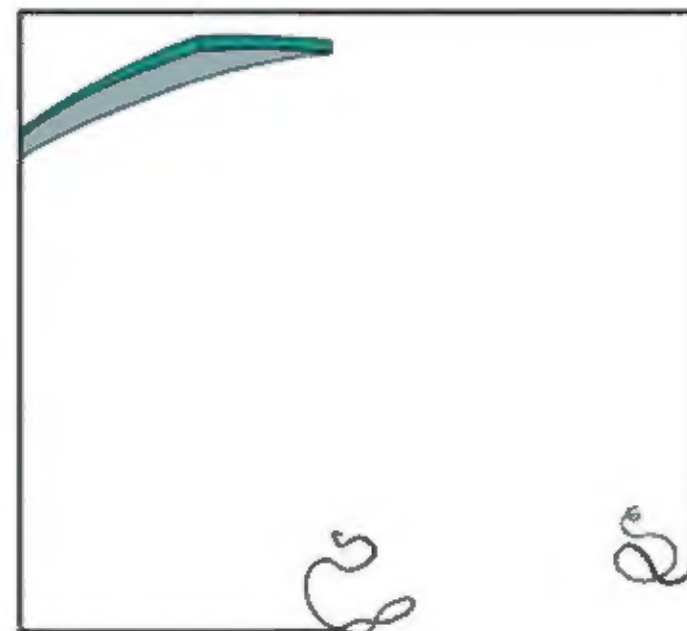
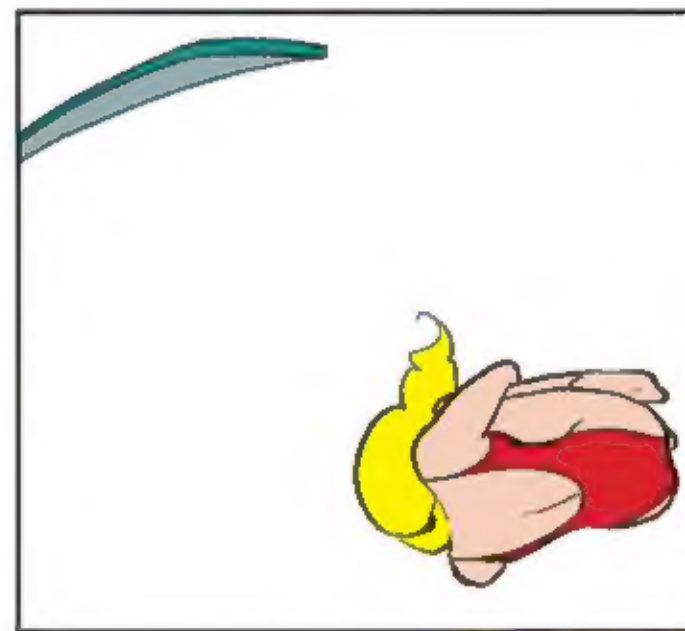
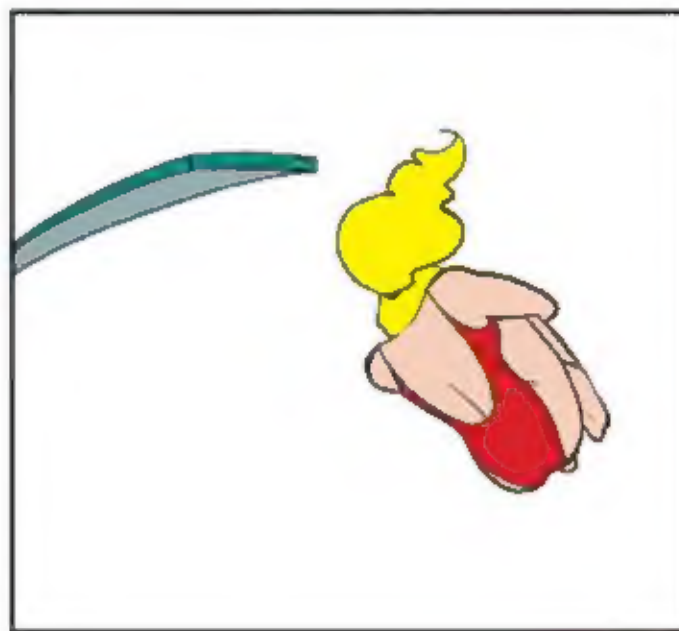
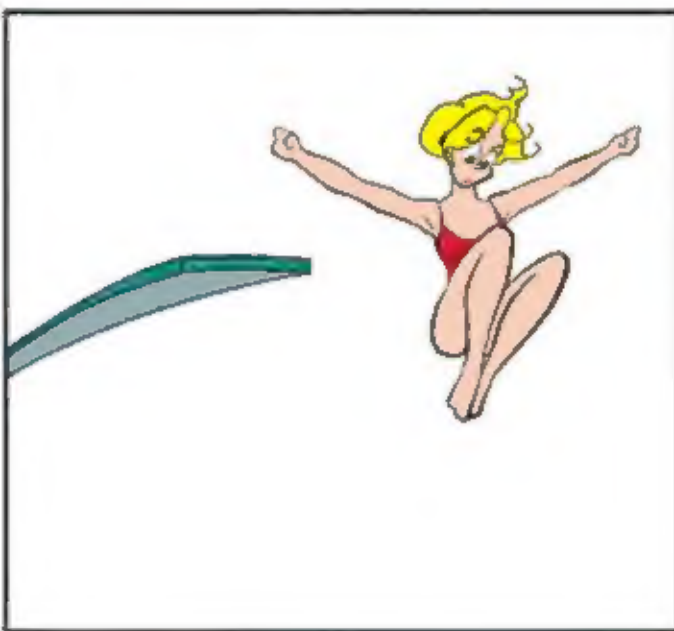
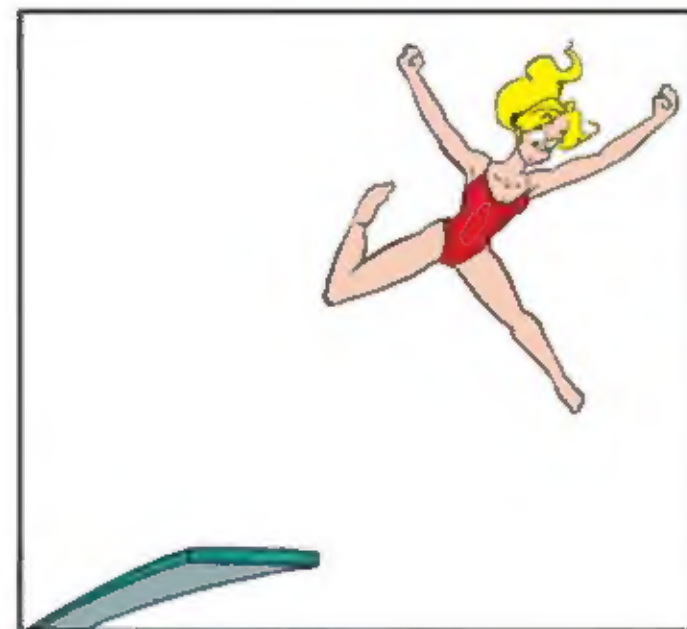
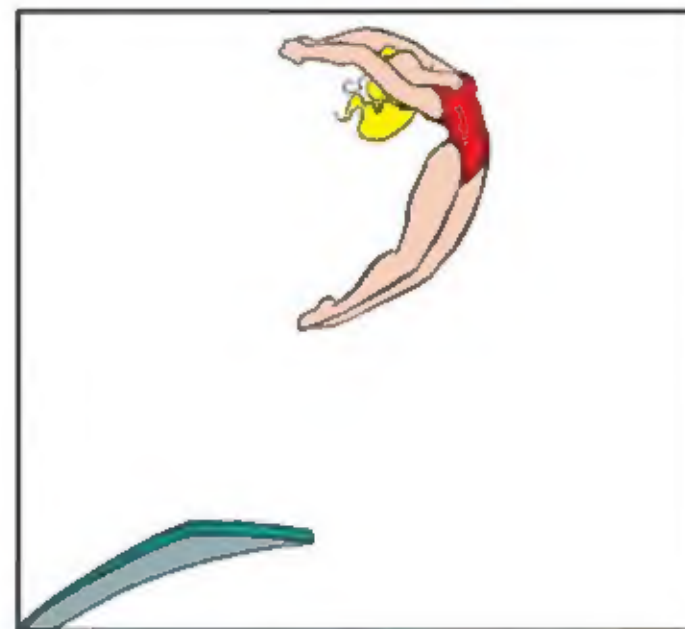






Brooke

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LIFE LESSONS:

BEING "NICE" REGULATES ONE'S
CONDUCT AND ENHANCES
ONE'S REPUTATION.

Broken

BEING
"VERY NICE"
IS INCOMPATIBLE
WITH MY
WARDROBE.



LIFE LESSONS:

DEEP DOWN IN EVERY PERSON OF AGE
RESIDES A TEENAGER IN PERPETUAL REBORN...

Brookman

...SLEEPLESS
AFTER HER
FIRST KISS.



LIFE LESSONS:

A PERSON WHO LIES BADLY...

Brooklyn

...ALMOST
CERTAINLY
TELLS
THE TRUTH
APPALLINGLY.



LIFE LESSONS:

IT IS THE UNSHAKABLE BELIEF IN EARTH CINEMA THAT ALIEN INVASION, DOMINATION AND ENSLAVEMENT OF THE POPULACE WILL BE CARRIED OUT WITH SWIFT RUTHLESSNESS, WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST OVERTURE FROM THE ALIENS BETOKENING LOVE, LOFTY PRINCIPLES OR THE PATRONAGE OF A DEITY.

Brooke

THUS
THE CONVICTION
AMONG THE
EARTHBOUND
THAT ANY ENTITY
ACTING WITH
AN UNDISGUISED
SINCERITY
AND A TOTAL
COMMITMENT TO
THE TRUTH
IS EVIL,
NATURALLY
INHUMAN AND
DEFINITELY NOT
ELECTABLE.



LIFE LESSONS:

DEEP DOWN
IN SOMEBODY'S MOTHER
STRUGGLING TO DO EVERYTHING RIGHT,
IS SOMEBODY'S DAUGHTER IN HER TEENS
STRIVING TO DO EVERYTHING WRONG.

Brooke



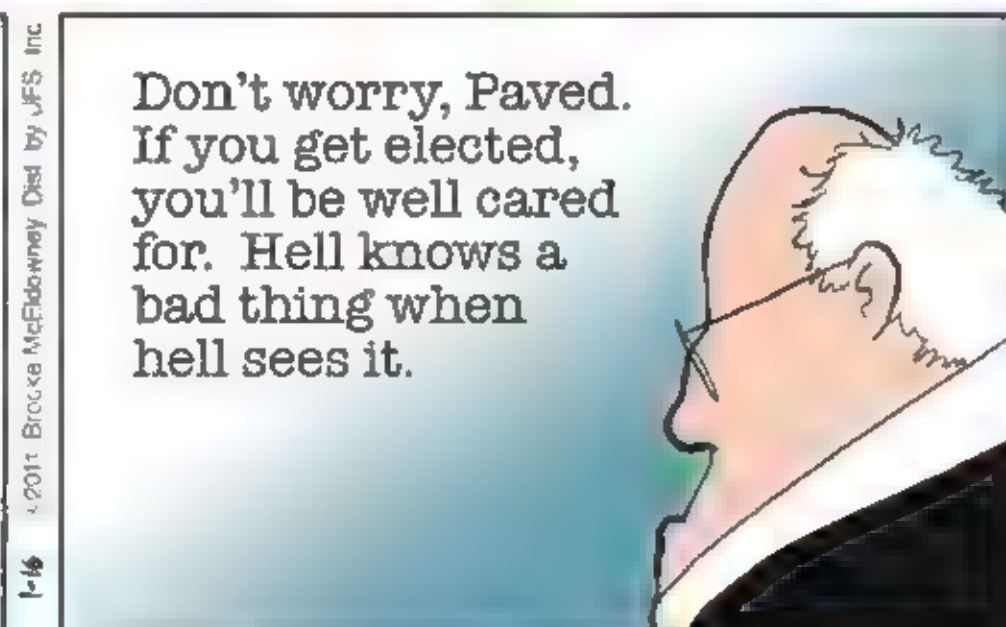
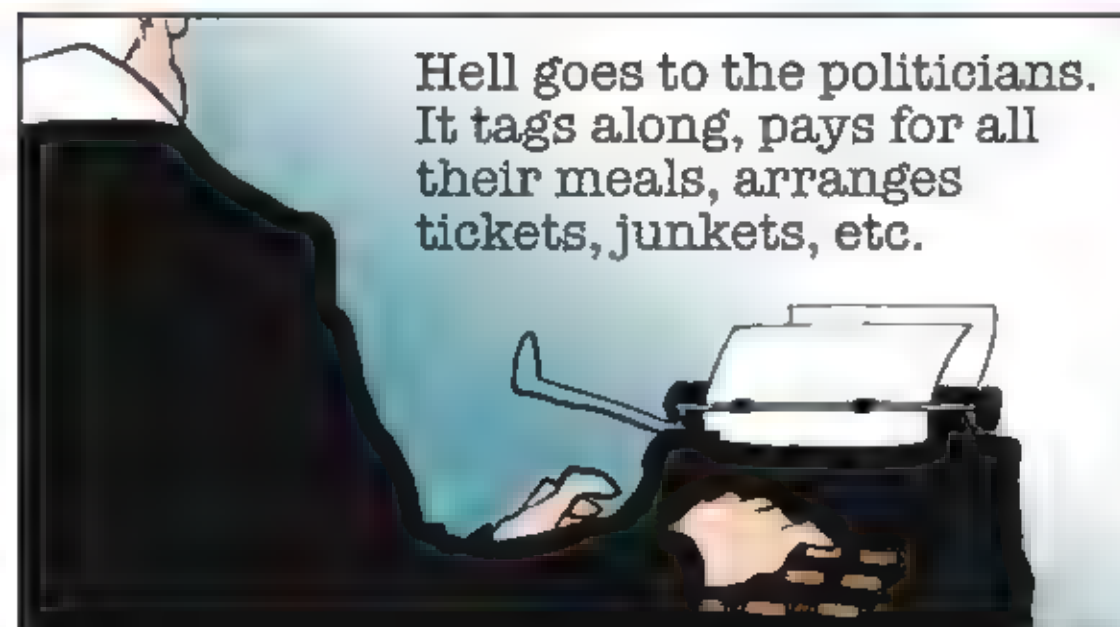
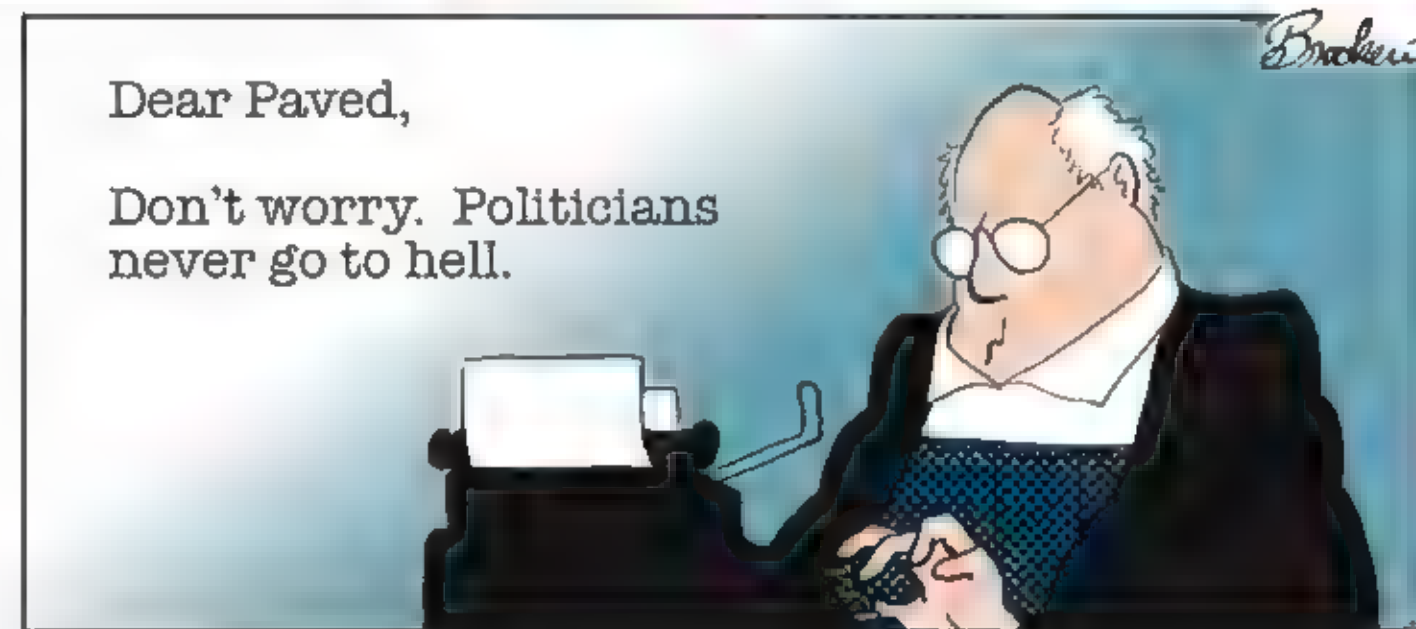
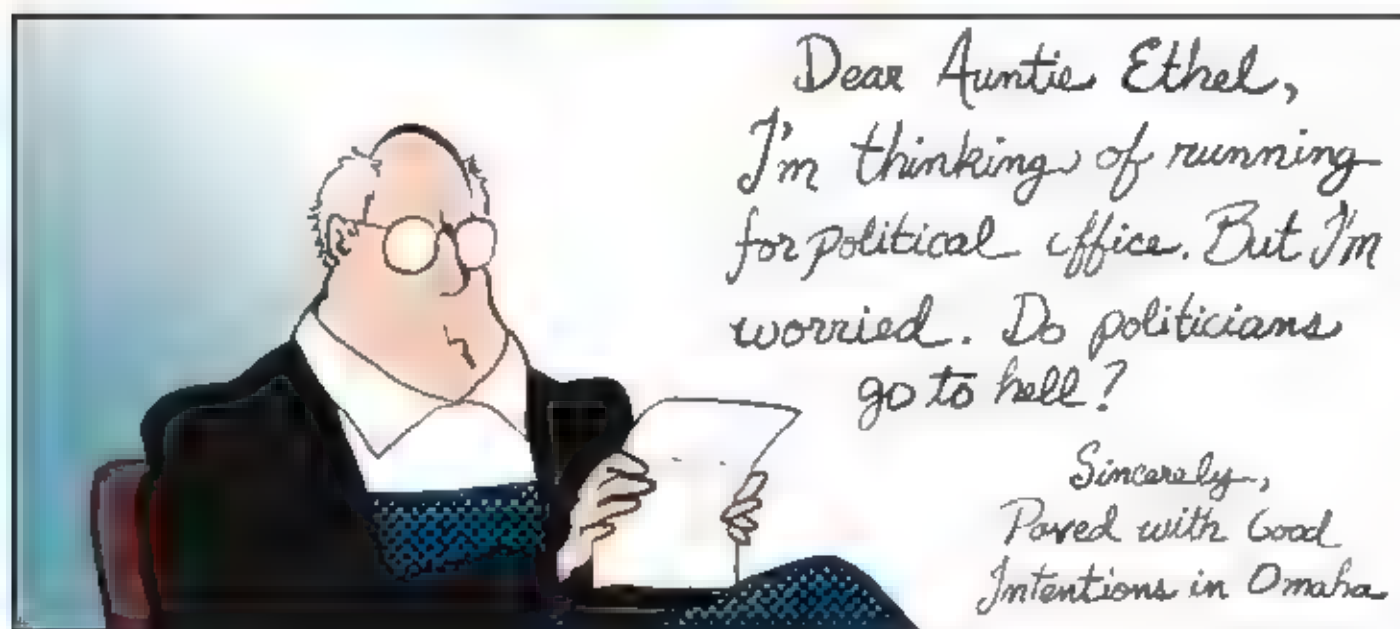
LIFE LESSONS:

BEING IN ONE ENDURING STATE OF LOVE IS
LIKE HOLDING YOUR BREATH DURING
A VERY DEEP PEARL DIVE.

Broder

IT IS
BETTER
TO BE IN LOVE
SEVERAL
TIMES A DAY:
I GET TO
CATCH MY
BREATH...
...AND I COLLECT
SO MANY
MORE
PEARLS.





EXCUSE ME, I'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR YOU. COULD
WE GO SOMEWHERE TO
TALK?

SURE.

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NOT YOU,
SWEETIE.
THIS IS
PRIVATE.

PRIVATE?!

WHAT DO YOU
MEAN PRIVATE!?
WHAT'S SO ALL-
FIRED PRIVATE!?

okay...it
WAS
private.

Brokers

amazing
how traffic
actually stops
when she does
that.





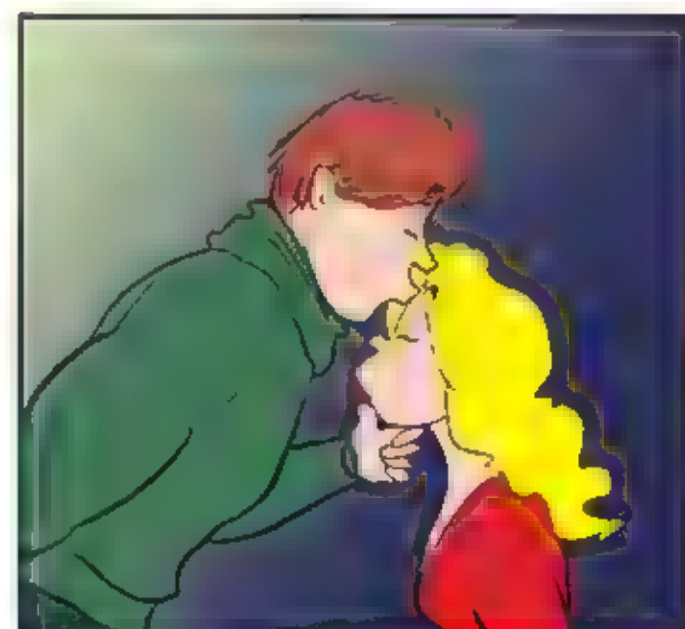
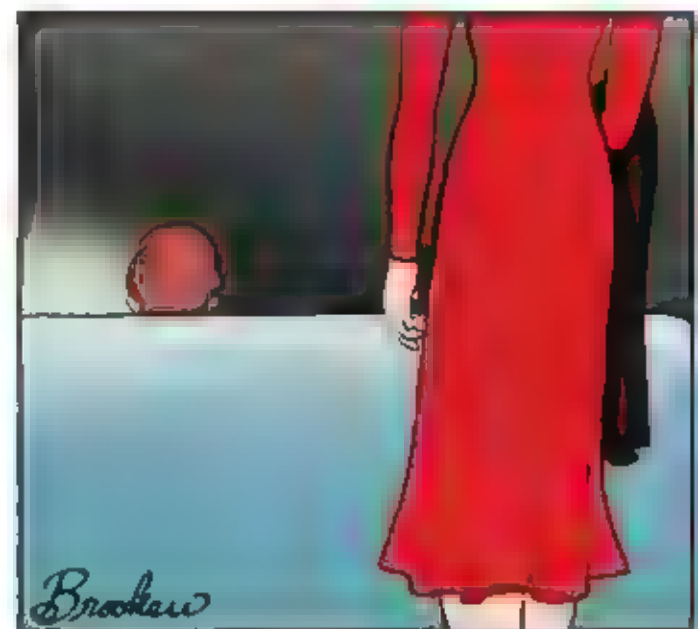
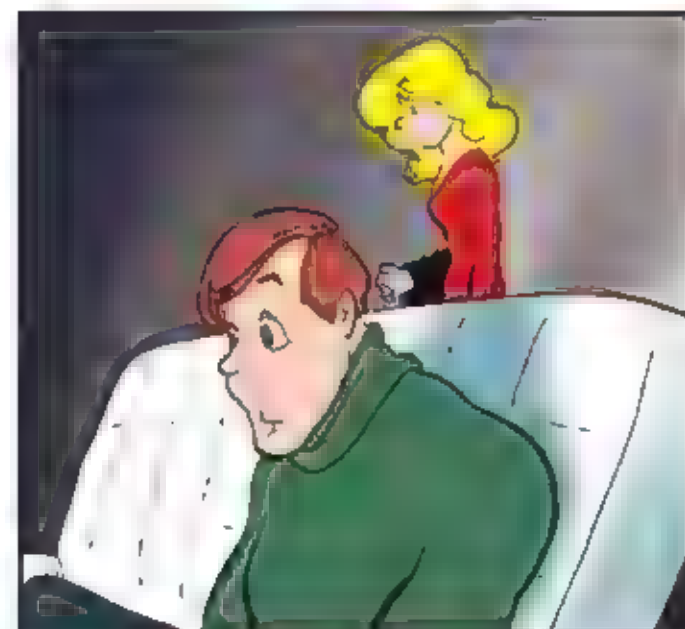


DON'T FEEL BAD
BECAUSE YOU
DON'T KEEP
SECRETS WELL.
...ONE OF THE
THINGS I'VE
ALWAYS
LOVED
ABOUT
YOU...

...IS
HOW MUCH
YOU REGRET
IT WHEN
YOU LIE.

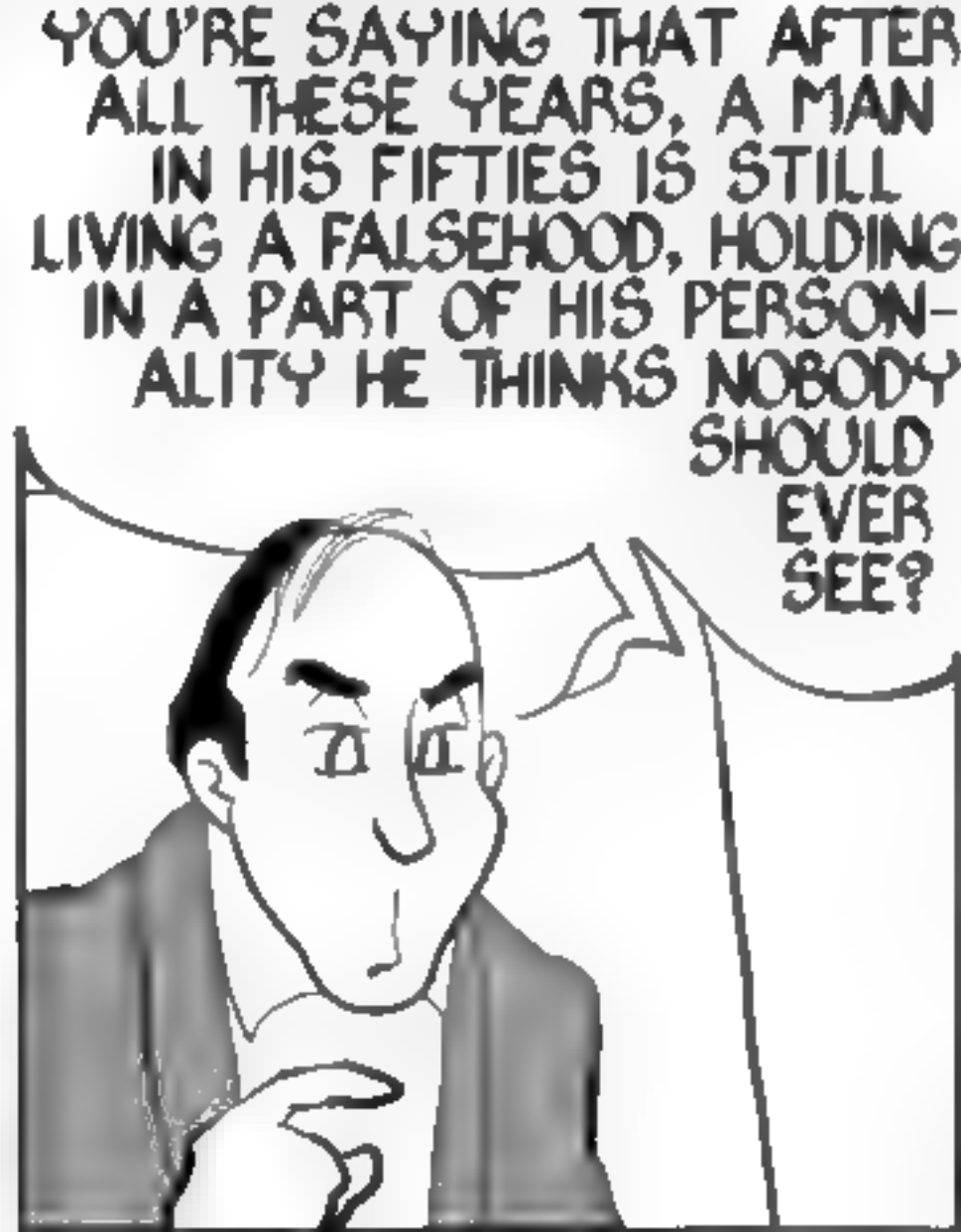
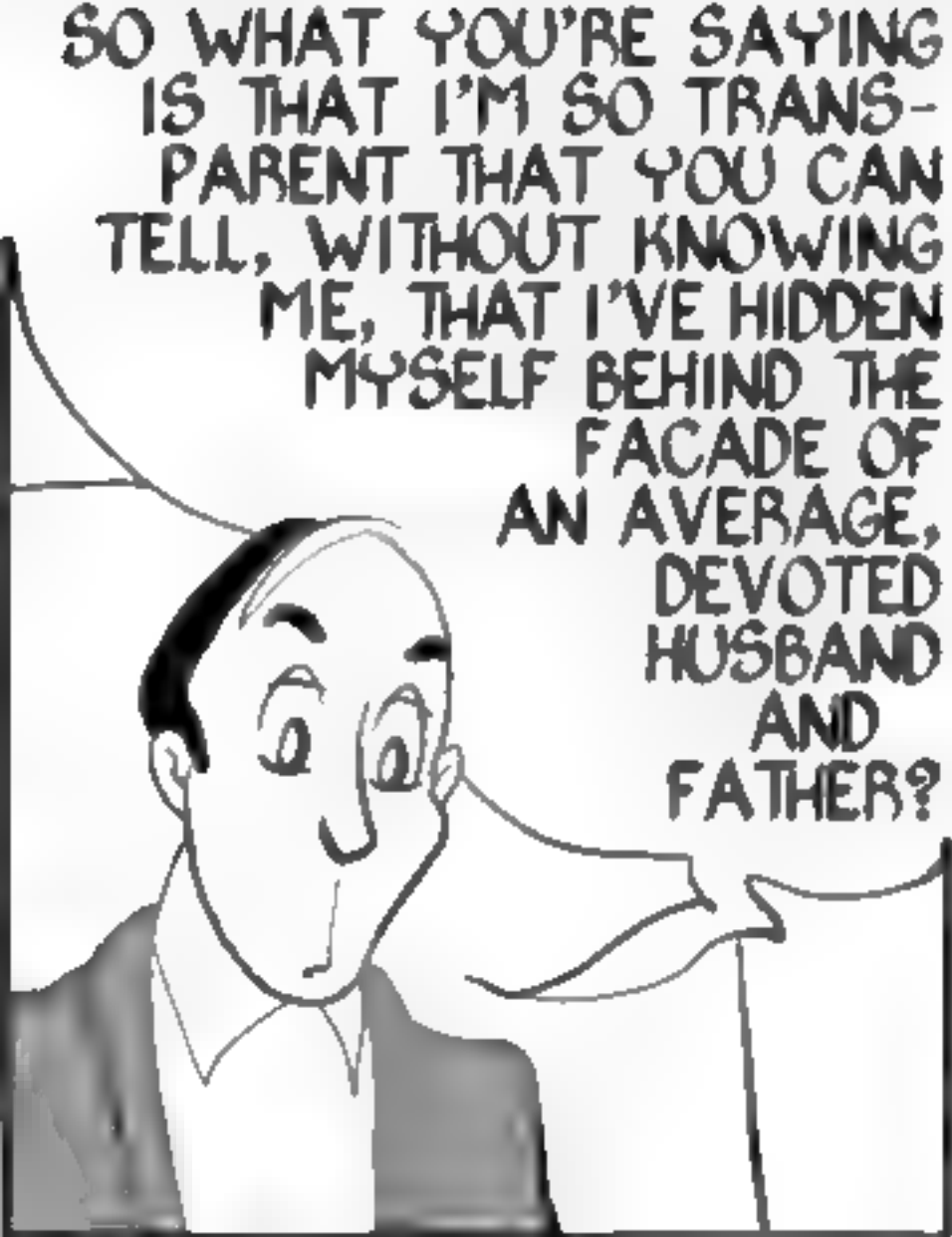
THE OTHER THING
I'VE ALWAYS
LOVED IS HOW
MUCH EVERYBODY
ELSE REGRETS
IT WHEN YOU
TELL THE
TRUTH.

Brooke









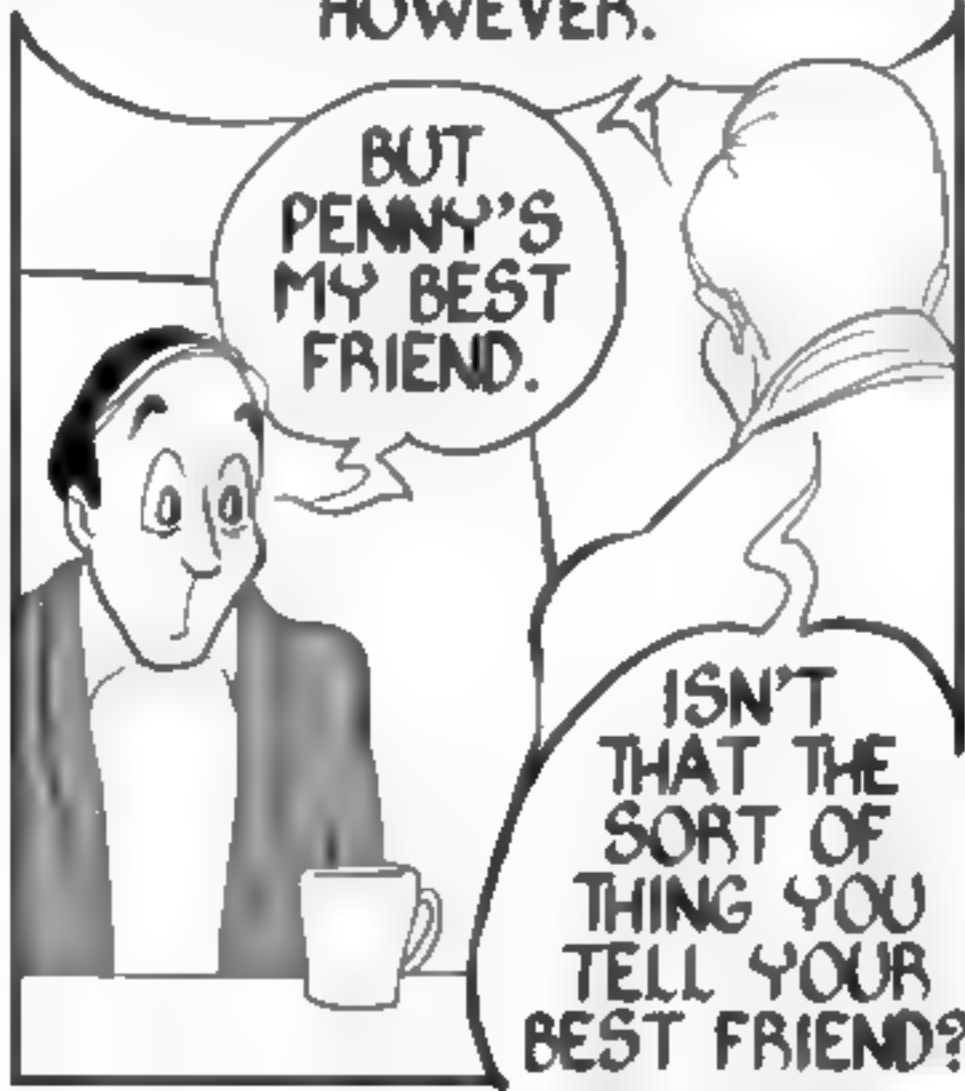


YOU'RE A LOVING AND DEVOTED FATHER, ROGER. NOBODY COULD TAKE THAT AWAY FROM YOU. I JUST THINK YOU DENY PART OF WHO YOU ARE.



AND IF THAT'S TRUE, IS IT ANY OF YOUR BUSINESS?

CERTAINLY NOT. POSSIBLY IT WOULD BE YOUR WIFE'S, HOWEVER.



BUT PENNY'S MY BEST FRIEND.

ISN'T THAT THE SORT OF THING YOU TELL YOUR BEST FRIEND?



MAYBE I SHOULD GO. YOU'RE REALLY NOT READY FOR THIS...

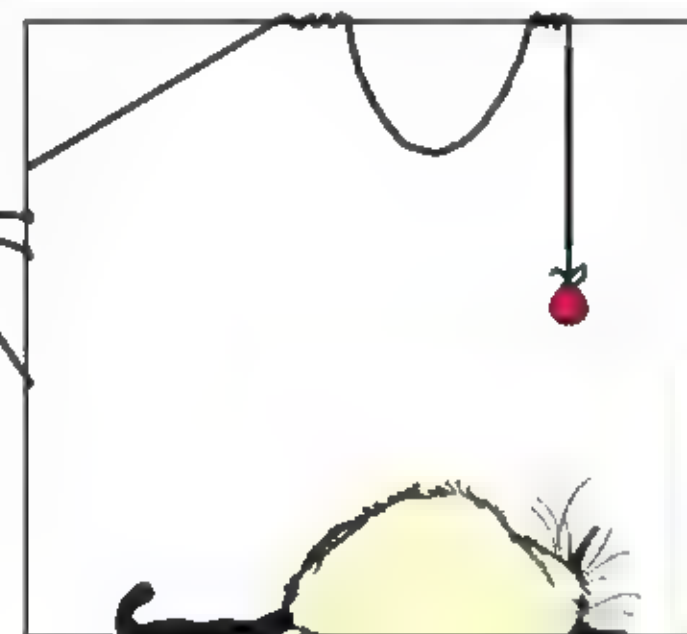
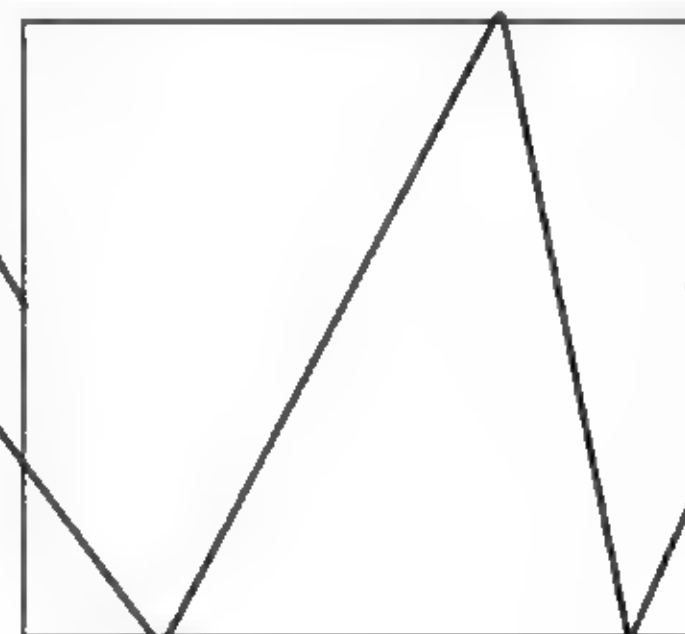
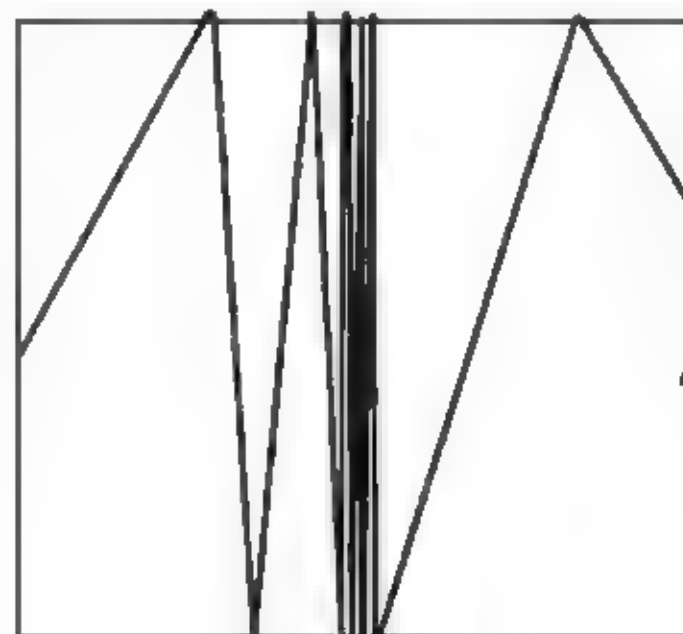
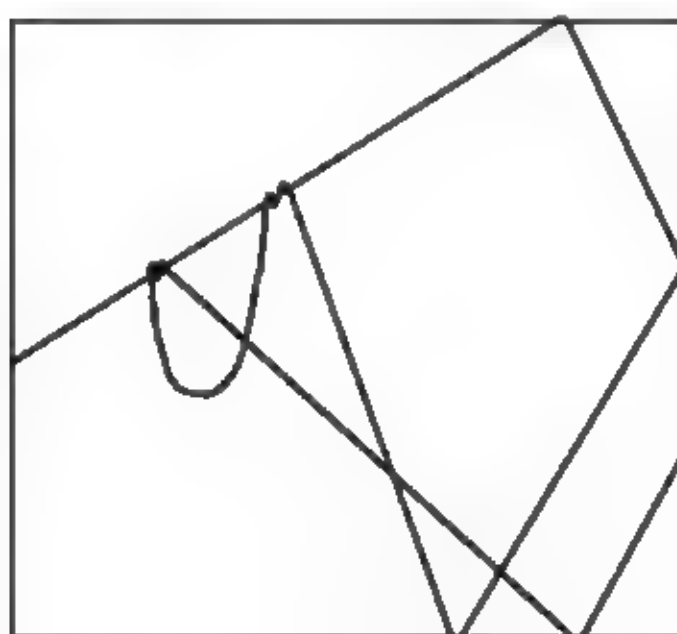
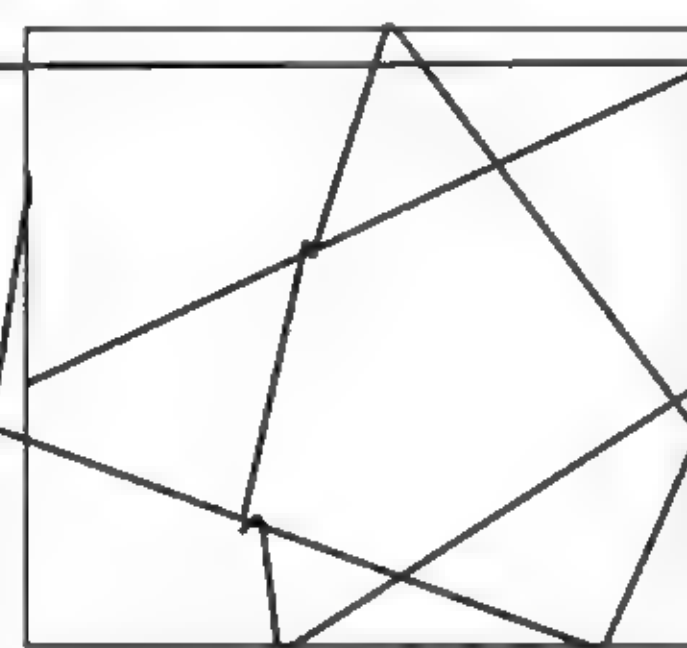
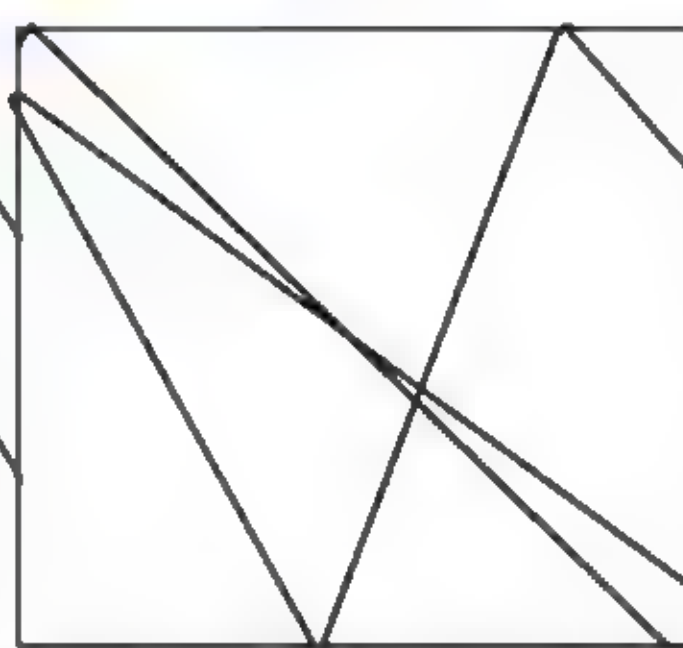
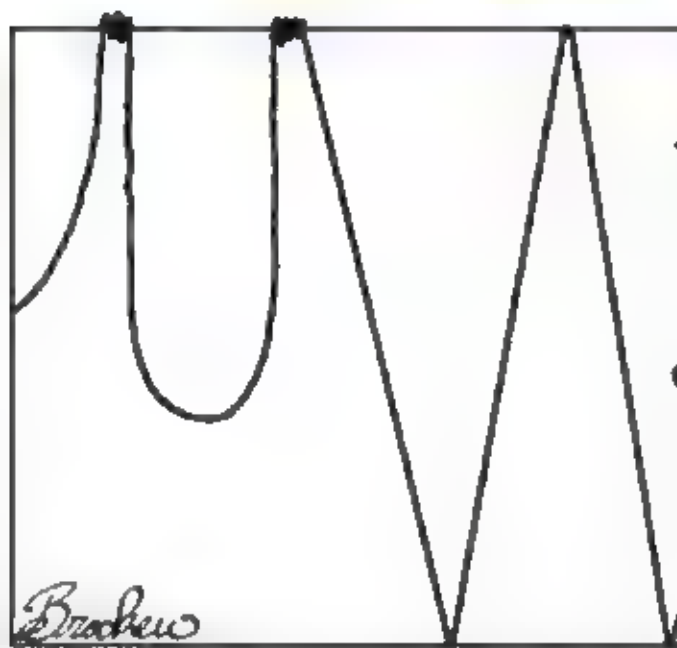
CAN I BUY YOU ANOTHER HOT CHOCOLATE?



...OR PERHAPS YOU ARE.

Brutus







COME ON, EDDA.
EVERYONE
ELSE GETS
A NICKNAME.

WHAT'S YOUR
LITTLE SOBRIQUET
FOR ME?

YOU ARE, "MAN WHO PICKS
ME UP AND
THROWS ME..."

...AND CATCHES ME,
TO WHOM I ENTRUST
MY VERY LIFE AND LIMB."

(I'VE EVEN CREATED
A SLIDE SHOW
OF YOU...

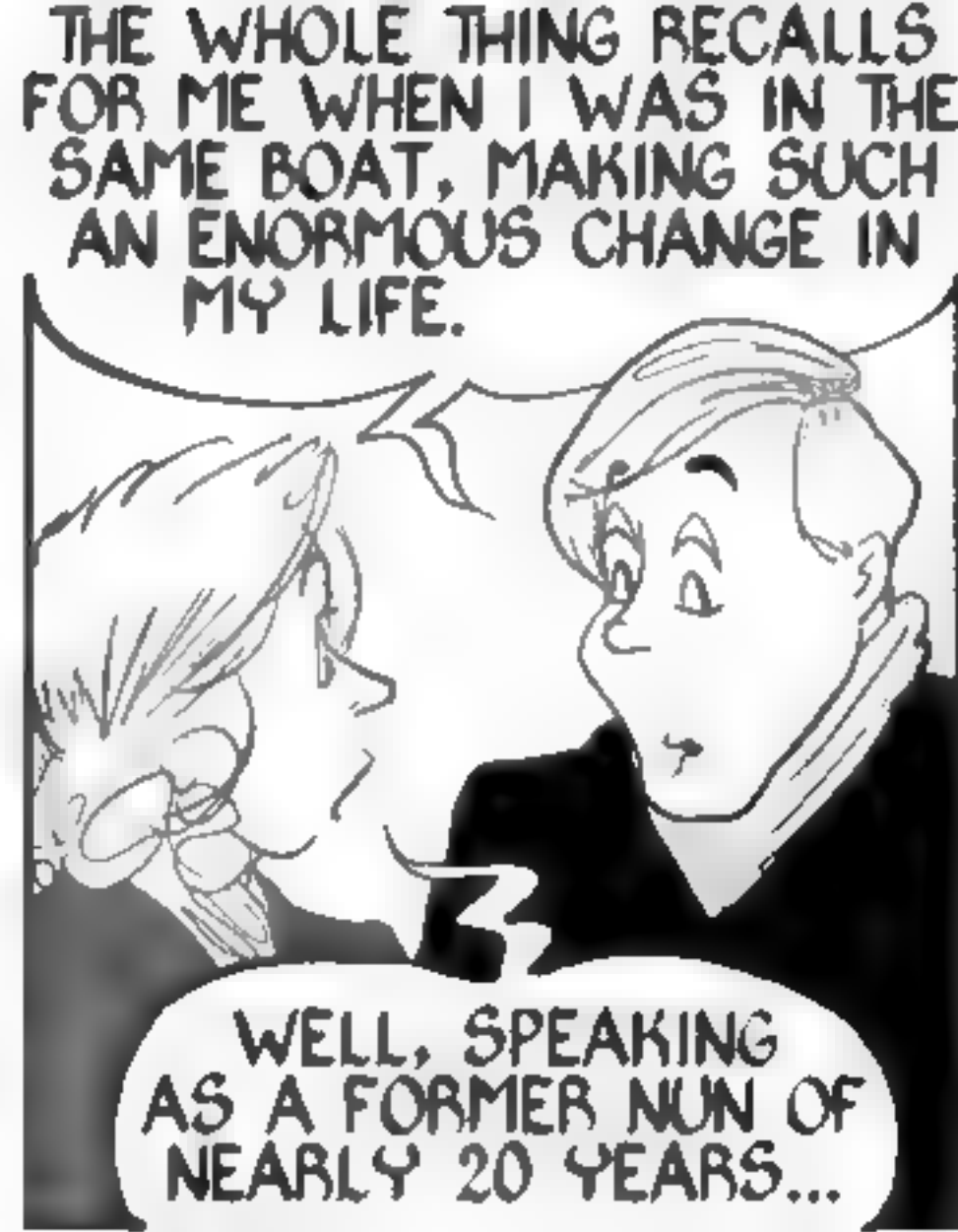
SOMETHING
PEOPLE CAN
PUT ON THEIR
CELL PHONES.

"APP
SETHLEBY"...

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2-1

Barclay



SO HOW DID THIS MAN REACT
TO YOUR KIND MINISTRA-
TIONS WHEN
YOU TOLD
HIM HE'S
GAY?

HE TOLD ME I
WAS ARROGANT.

WERE YOU
SURPRISED?

I WAS
JUST
TRYING
TO HELP.

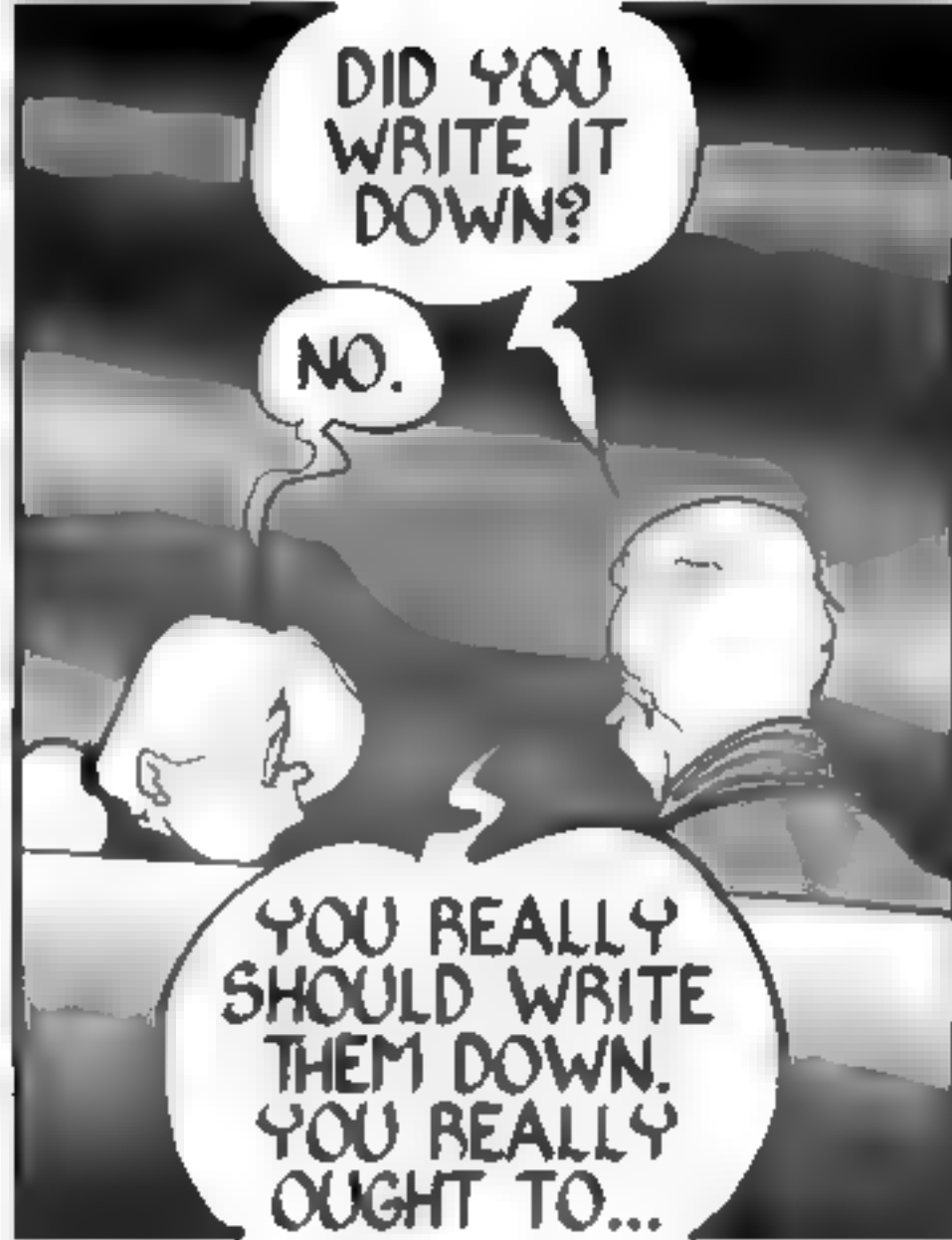
I ALWAYS THINK IT'S JUST
AS WELL IF THE ROADS
WE PAVE TO
HELL ARE
STREWN
WITH
A FEW
GOOD
POTHOLE.

IT MAKES
THE RIDE THERE
LESS SMOOTH.

WELL,
I'M FAIRLY
SKILLED
AT THAT.

Brooke





9 CHICKWEED LANE

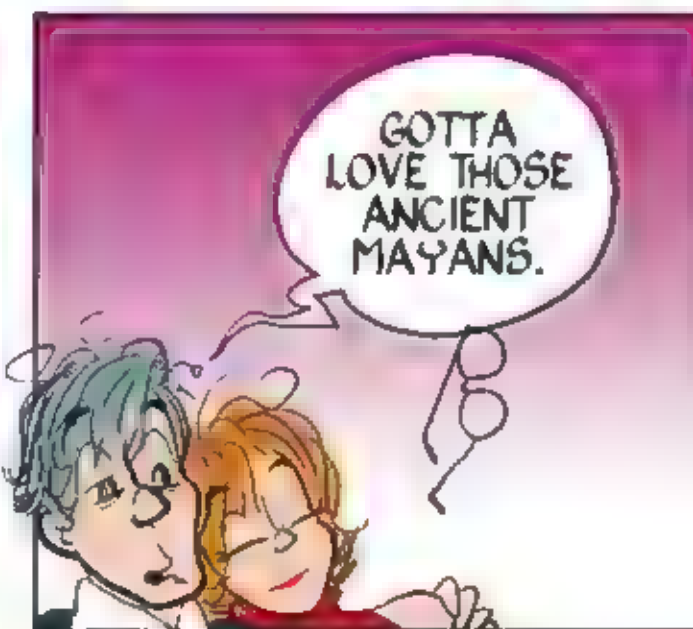
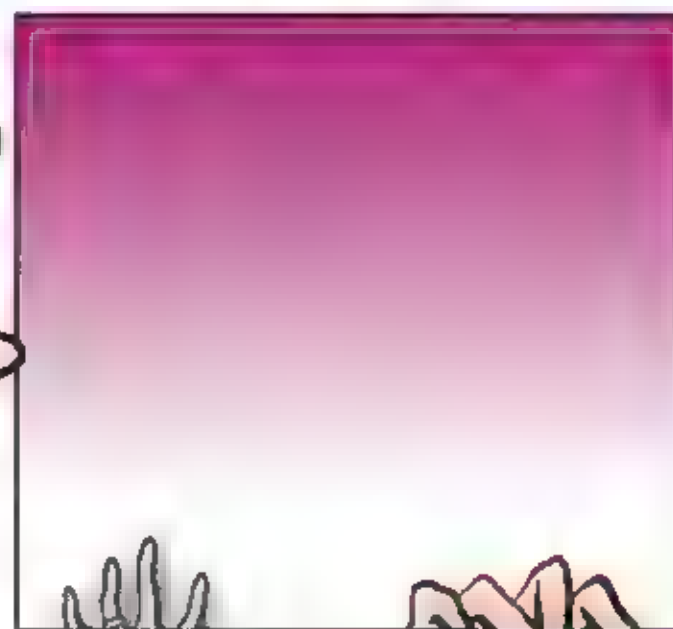
THEY SAY THAT THE ANCIENT MAYANS FORETOLD OUR END IN A VAST CATAclysm SWALLOWING UP EARTH AND ALL ITS INHABITANTS IN THE YEAR 2012.

AND THIS IS BASED ON WHAT? ...THEIR ABILITY TO FOLLOW THE MOVEMENT OF PLANETS?

THAT IDEA WOULD HOLD A LITTLE MORE WATER HAD THE MAYANS FORETOLD THEIR OWN DESTRUCTION...OR EVEN IF THEY HAD MANAGED TO ENGINEER A PROPER ARCH.

ON THE OTHER HAND, JUST IN CASE TIME IS SHORT...

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SETH DEALS WITH
MY UNCLE
WITH SUCH
CERTAINTY.
...I ALWAYS
WONDER
HOW HE
CAN BE
SO SURE
ROGER'S
GAY.
HASN'T
HE EVER
DOUBTED
HIMSELF?

Brake

YOU MEAN
THE WHOLE
GAYDAR THING?
...OR HIMSELF
AS A GAY
MAN?

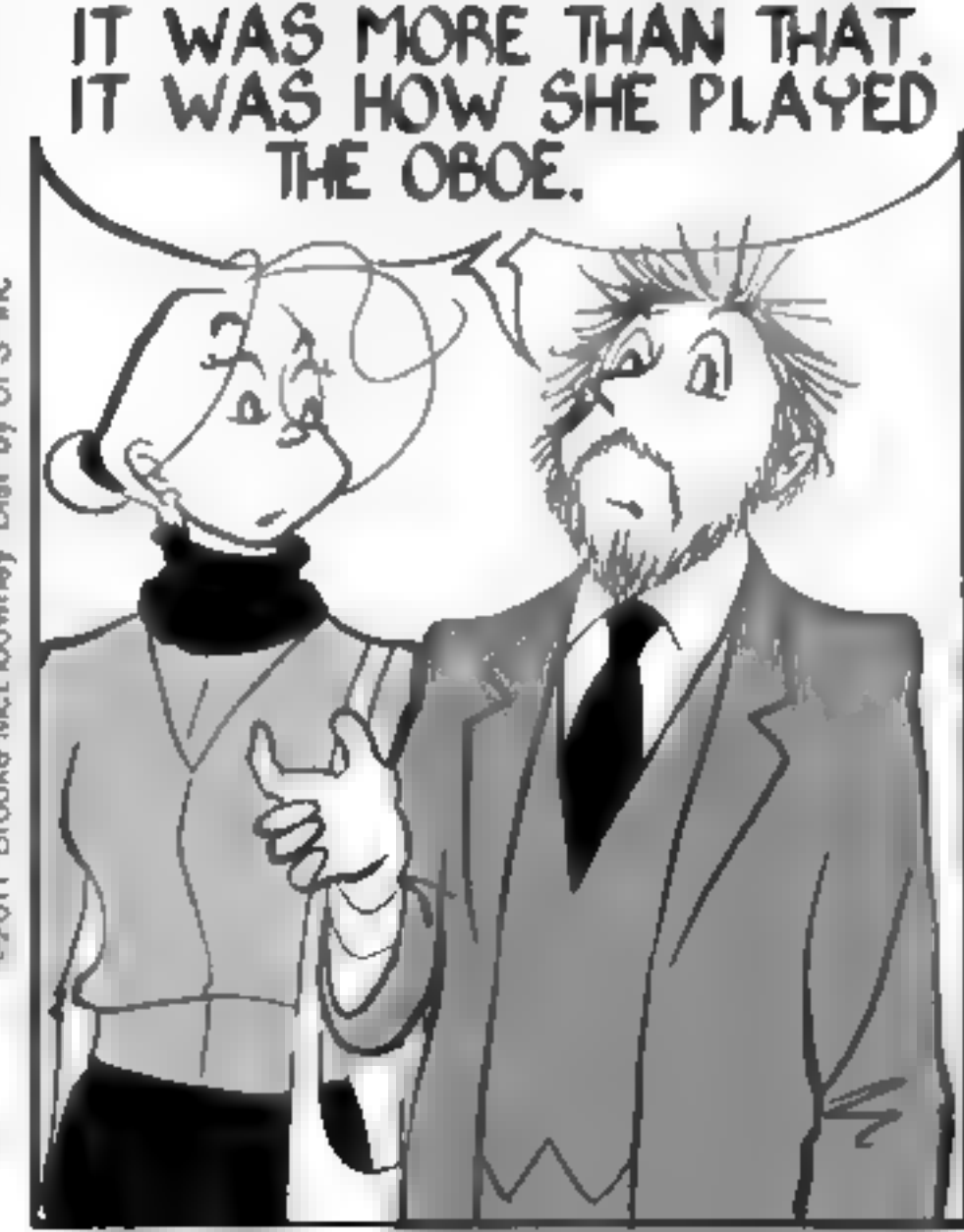
WHAT
DO
YOU
KNOW?!

WATCH IT! YOU'RE
STRIPPING THE
BUTTONS OFF MY
WAISTCOAT.





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SETH FELL
FOR AN OBOE
PLAYER?

SETH FELL
FOR THE OBOE
PLAYING.



I DON'T KNOW WHY.
...I COULDN'T HEAR ANY-
THING IN IT. BUT HE DID.
HIS FIRST ENCOUNTER WAS
A RADIO PERFORMANCE OF
"DON JUAN" BY RICHARD
STRAUSS. WHEN THE OBOE
SOLO BEGAN HE WAS
TRANSFIXED.
AFTERWARDS HE
SOUGHT OUT
EVERY RECORD
AND TAPE
AND CD THE
ORCHESTRA MADE
JUST TO HEAR
THAT OBOIST
PLAY.



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AT EVERY SOLO HIS
FACE WOULD GO BLANK,
LIKE A MAN TOTALLY
INFATUATED. I DON'T THINK
IT OCCURRED TO HIM THAT
THE OBOIST MIGHT BE A
WOMAN UNTIL IT WAS
TOO LATE. WHEN HE SAW
HER ON A TELEVISION
CONCERT, HE WAS UTTERLY
HOOKED.



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HE SAW
SHE WAS
A CHICK?

HE SAW
SHE WAS
A 63-YEAR-
OLD CHICK
WITH
TRIFOCALS,
AND THE
NAME
MAXINE.



MAXINE COULD HAVE BEEN SETH'S GRANDMOTHER, EXCEPT THAT SHE WAS A WIRY LITTLE WOMAN HALF HIS GRANDMA'S WEIGHT, WITH A TIGHT CHIGNON AND AN EXPRESSION AS IF SHE WERE PERPETUALLY SUCKING ON AN UNRIPE PERSIMMON.



Brooklyn

BUT THERE ARE SOME THINGS A HELP-LESS ROMANTIC LIKE SETH CAN'T GET OVER... A SOUND, A LOOK IN THE EYES... THINGS THAT CATAPULT HIM PAST THE MOST SACROSANCT OF BOUNDARIES. IN MAXINE'S CASE IT WAS HER OBOE PLAYING. SETH'S HEART WAS STIRRED, AND HE WAS IN LOVE.

I GUESS I DON'T POSSESS ANY QUALITIES THAT WOULD STIR SETH.

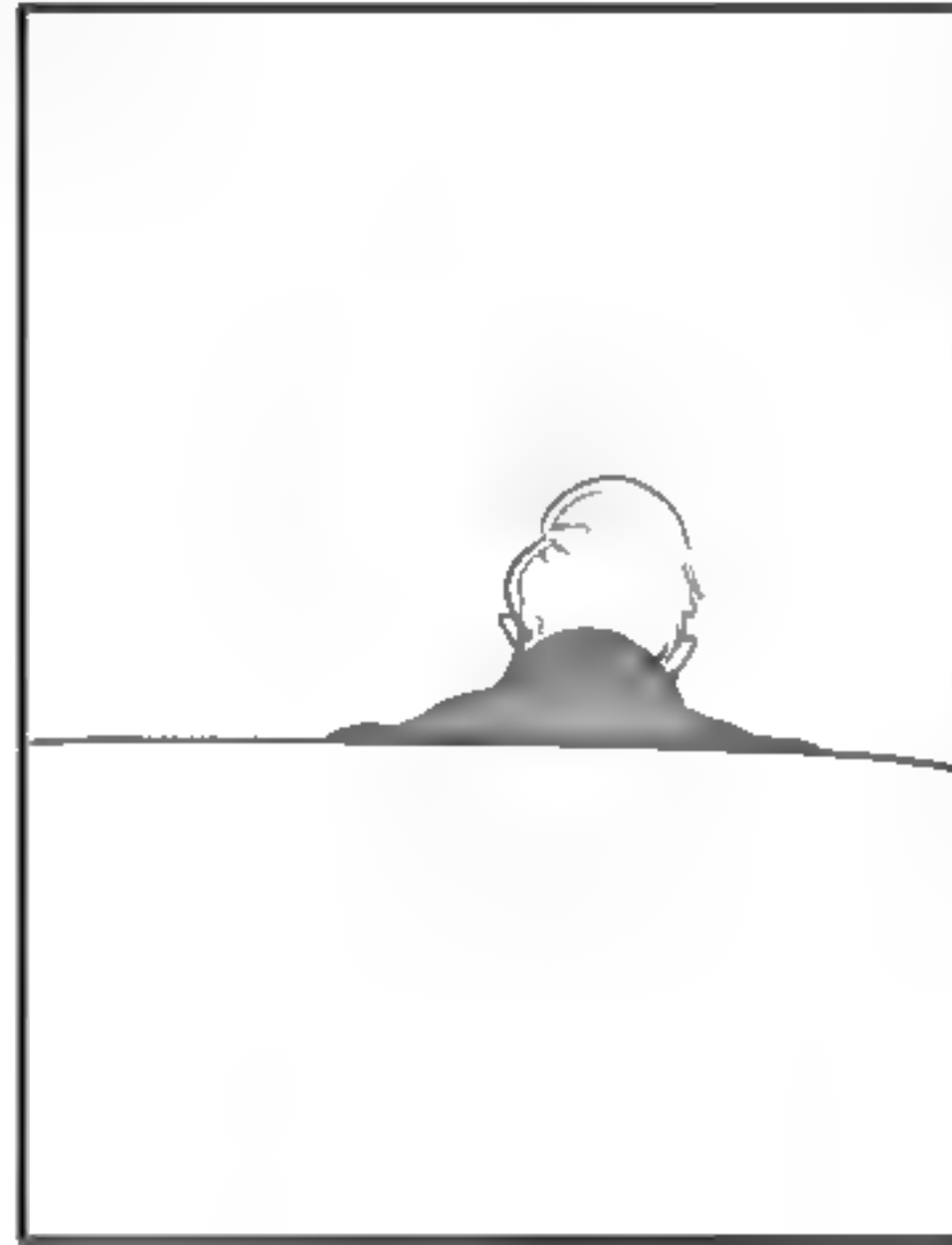


NOPE, YOU DON'T HAVE TO FRET ABOUT THAT. YOU'RE COMPLETELY UNPROVOCATIVE.



HOW
AWFULLY
COMFORTING.







HALLMARKS
OF FELINITY



Brooke

HOSTAGE-
TAKING







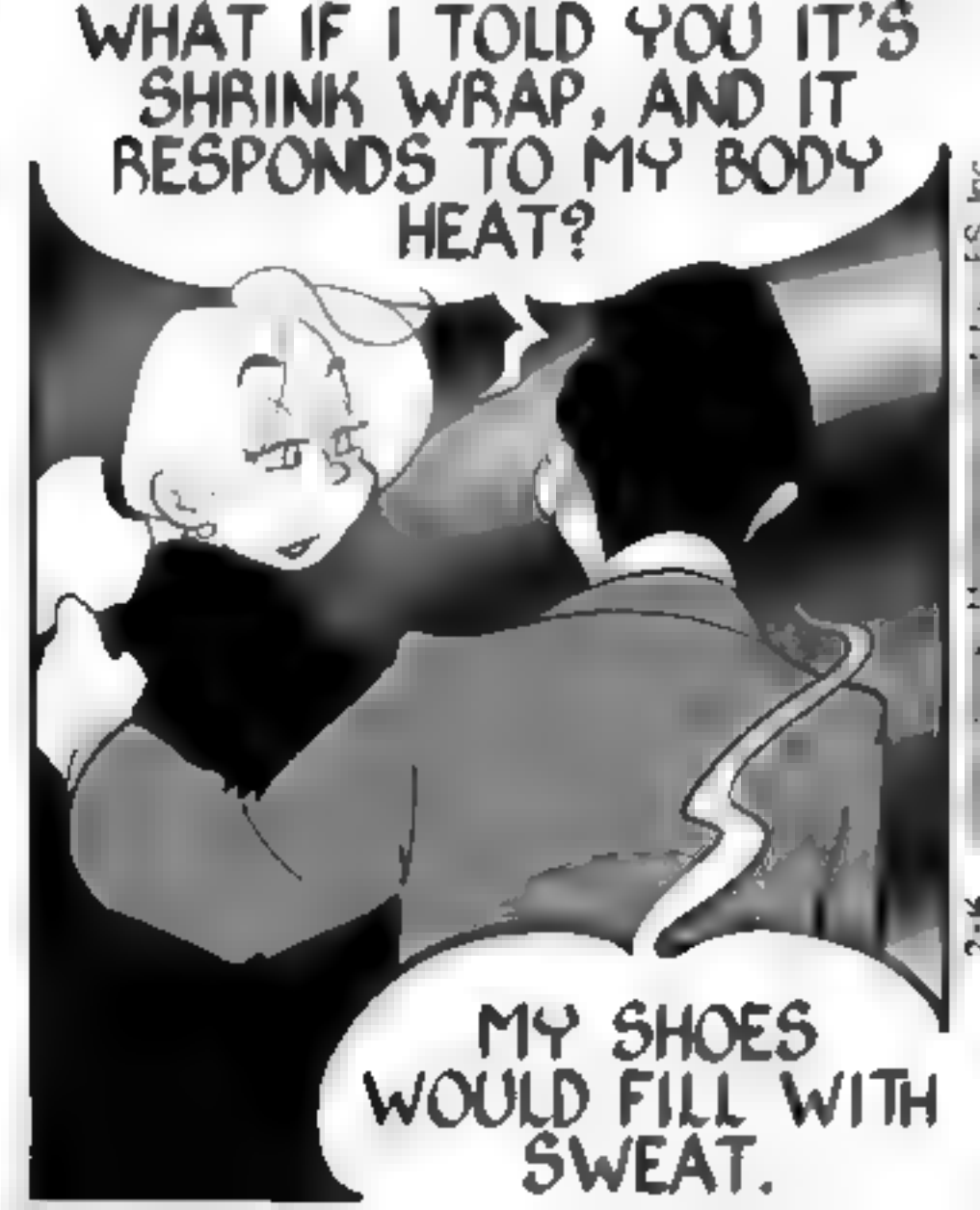
I BELIEVE I FIRST HAVE TO
SALIVATE, HYPERVENTILATE,
AND REGAIN THE USE
OF MY MOTOR
REFLEXES,
THEN I'LL BE
PREPARED TO
TANGO.



SORRY...DID I
TALK TOO
CLINICALLY?



FOR ME,
IT HAS BECOME
THE LANGUAGE
OF LOVE.





OH, SWELL!...FERNANDA
JONS IS HERE. SHE WOULD
SHOW UP AT A TANGO
SALON TO
WATCH ME.

WATCH
YOU
DO
WHAT?

WATCH ME
BREAK UP WITH
MY BIG-MOUTHED
BOYFRIEND!

THAT'S
IT!

I'M
LEAVING!

YOU CAN'T LEAVE IN A HUFF.
I'M DUMPING YOU! I HAVE
TO LEAVE! IF YOU LEAVE,
IT'LL LOOK
AS IF YOU
DUMPED
ME!

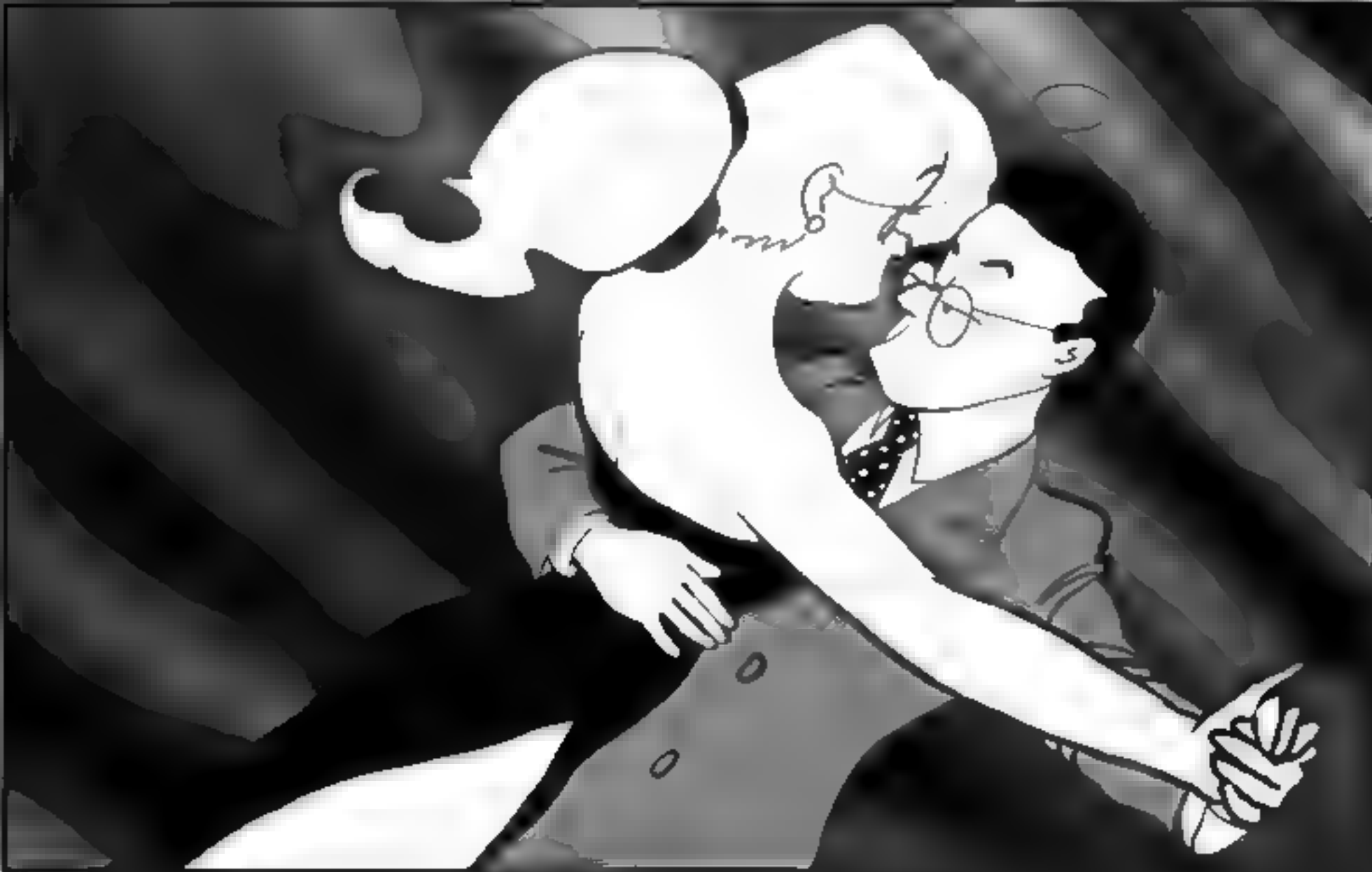
Brutus

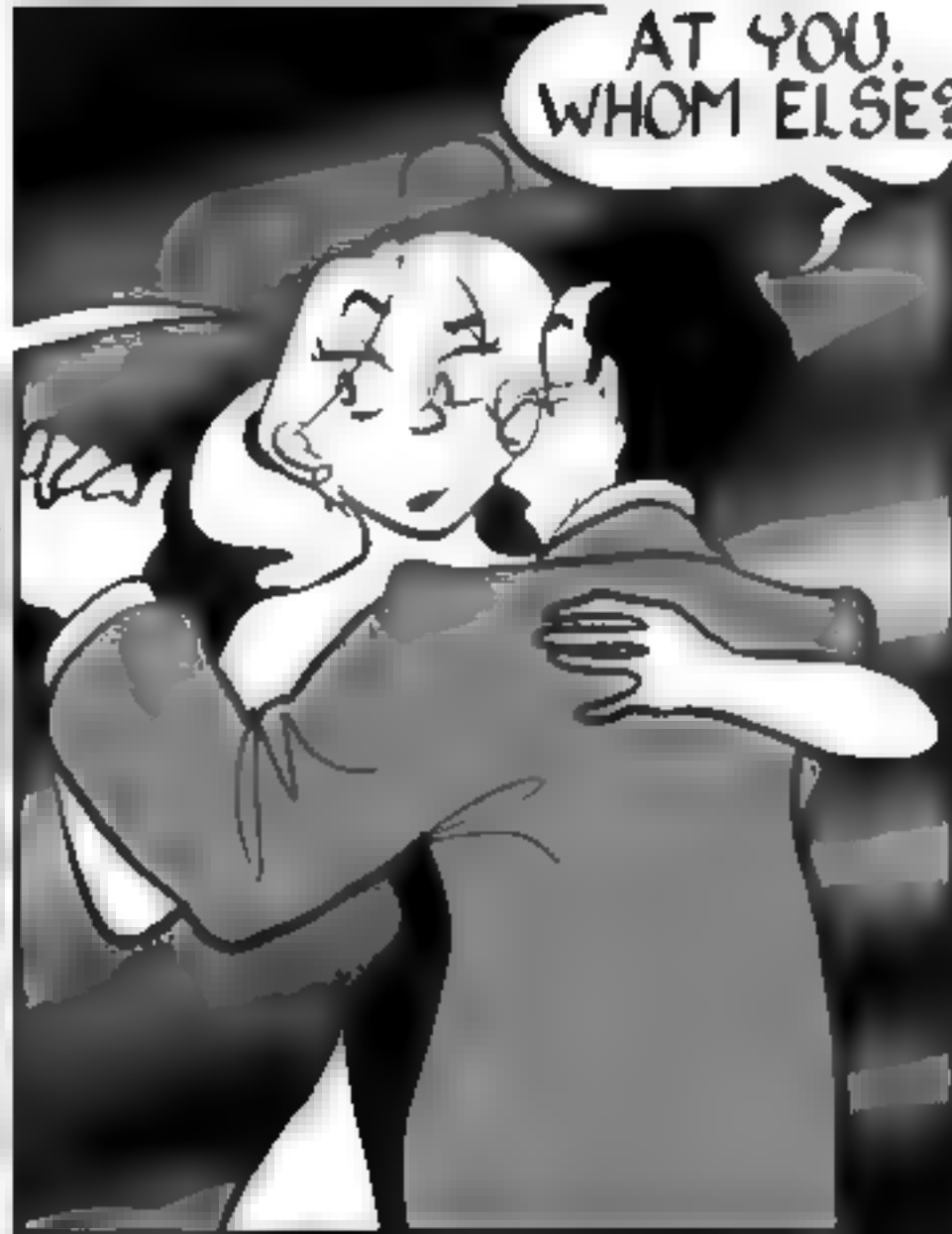
Hi,
Fernanda.

HERE AND BE CALM, AS IF I'M WAITING FOR SOME-ONE.

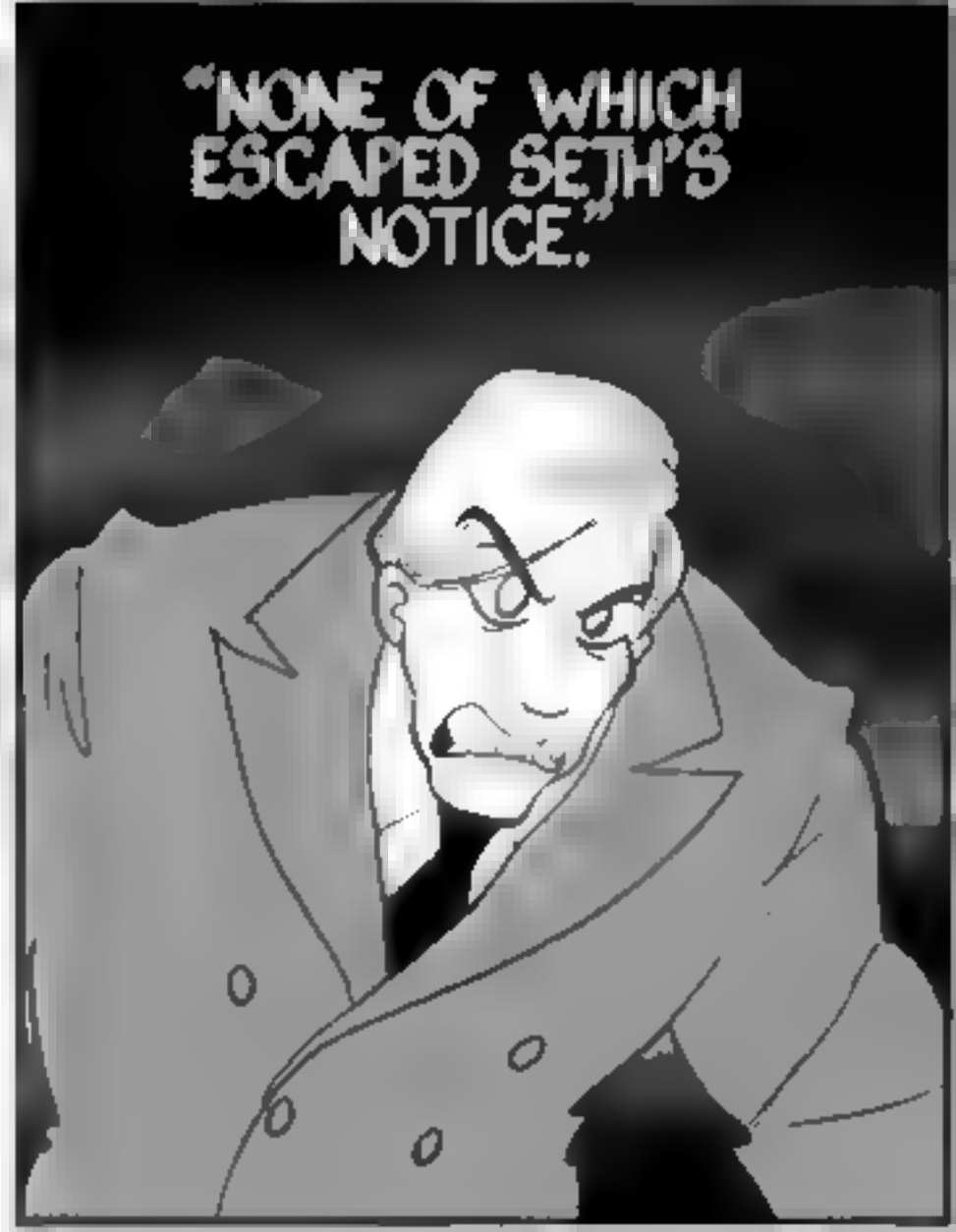






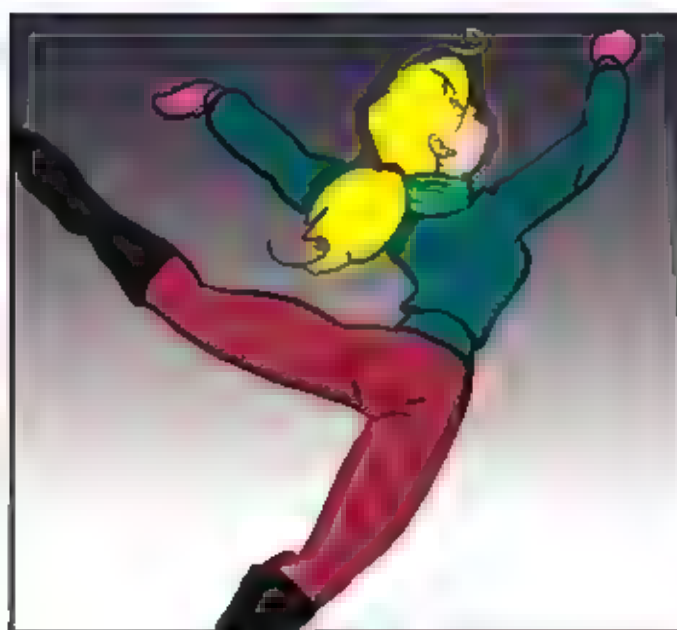












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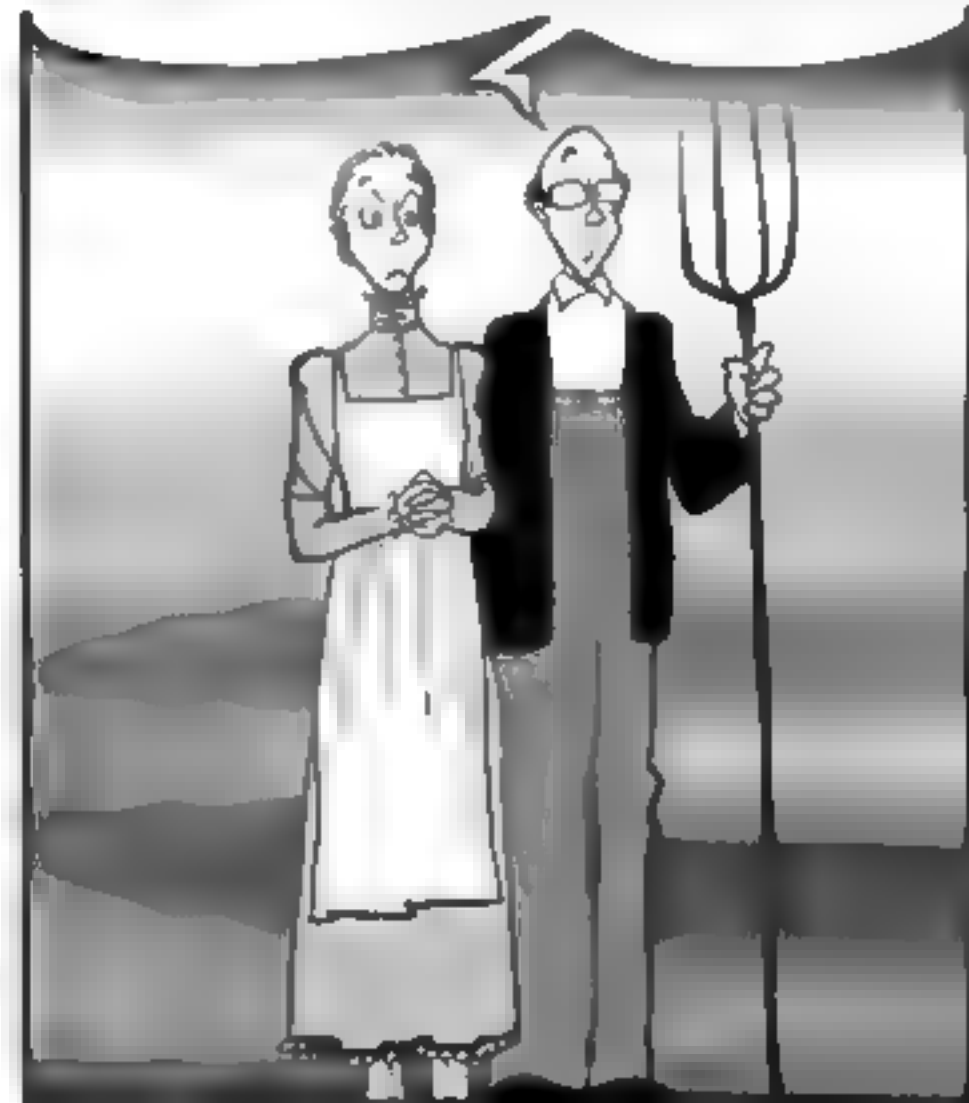


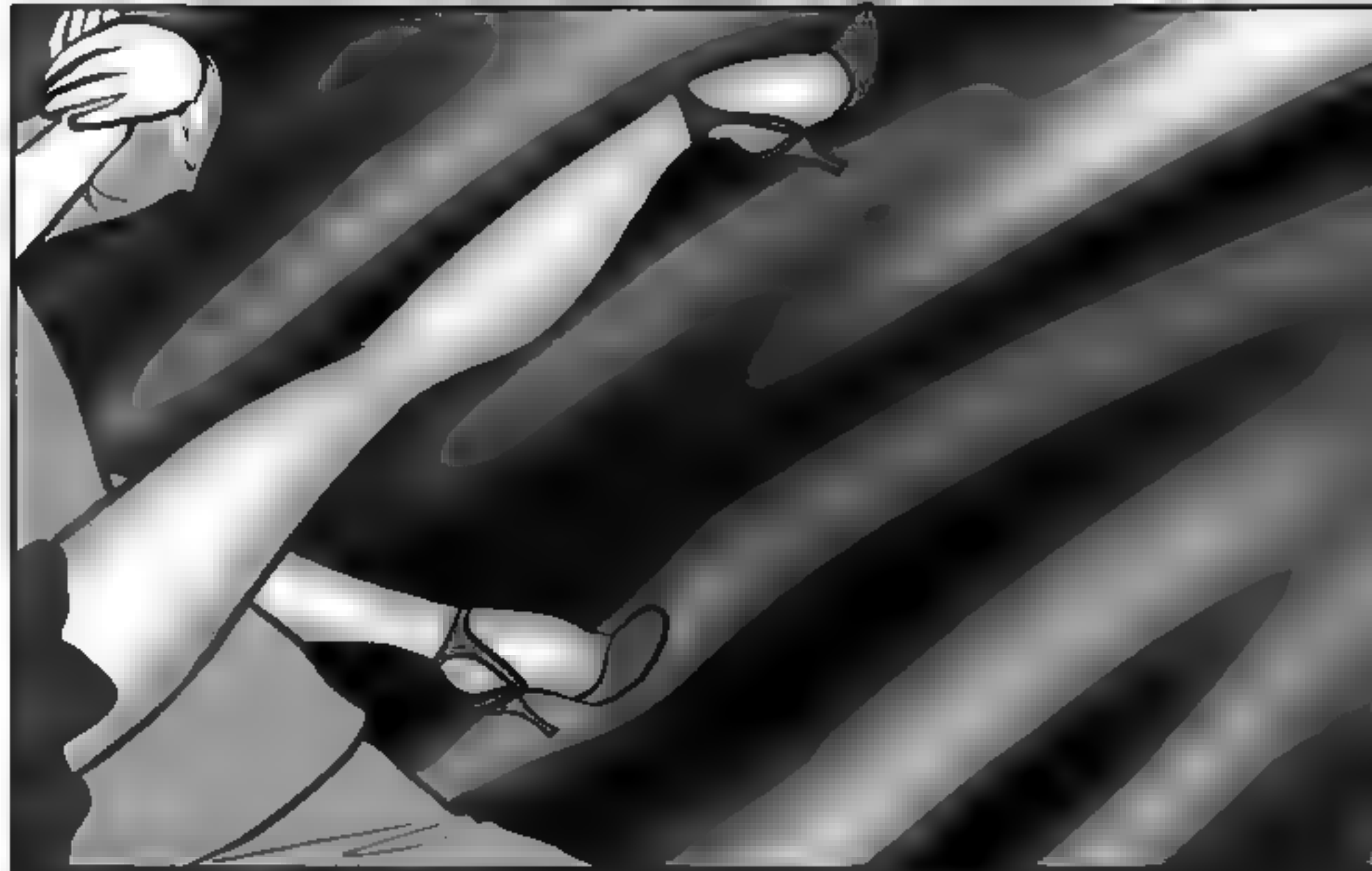
WHEN THE EVENING BEGAN,
I SAW MYSELF WITH
A ROSE
CLENCHED
IN MY
TEETH
AND THE
BANDO-
NEON
PULSING
IN MY
SOUL.
...BUT
NOW...

Braden



AH GUESS AH'LL JUST GO
HITCH UP THE BUGGY, MAW.





IT SEEMS SILLY, YOUR HAVING TO SPEND THE DAY
ACTING AS MY DANCE
PARTNER, ONLY TO
MEET ME AGAIN
AT NIGHT TO
TANGO.



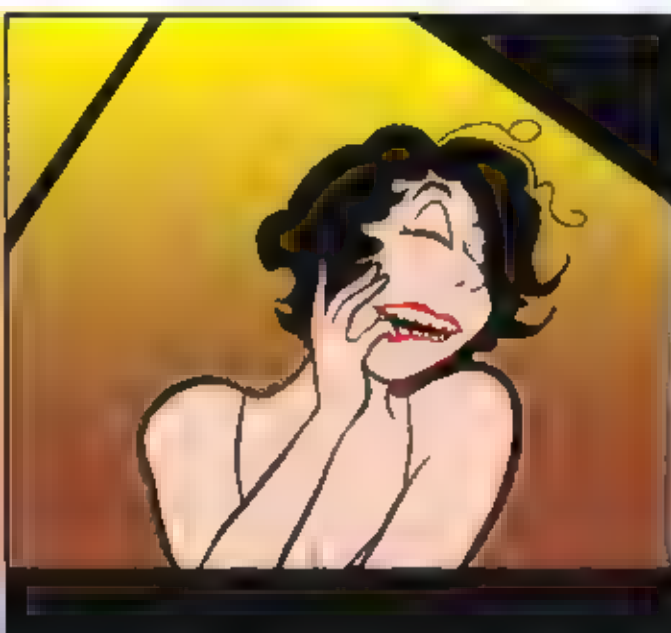
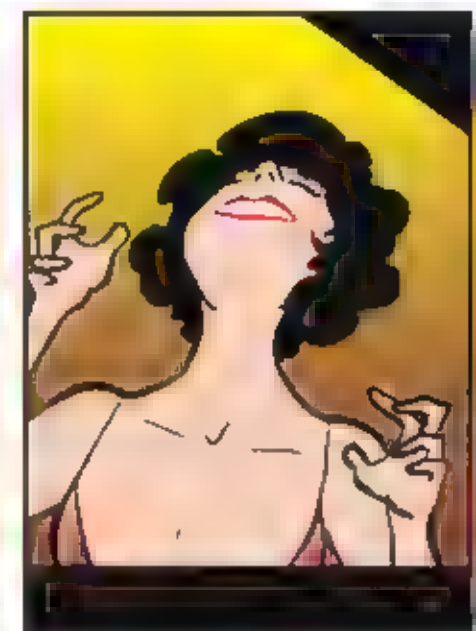
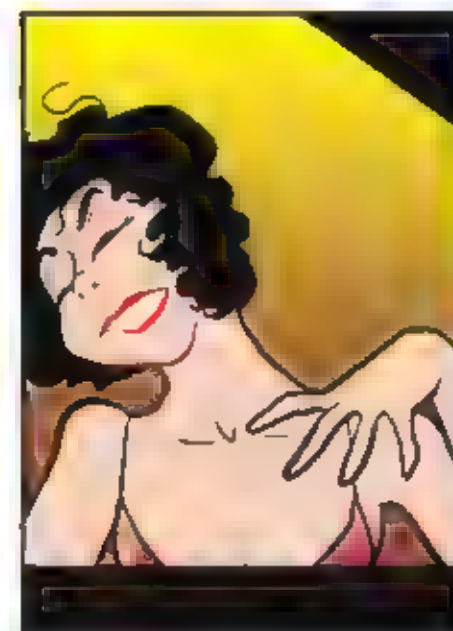
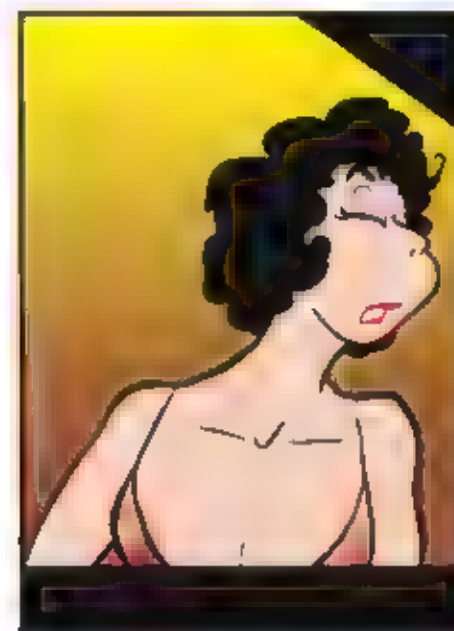
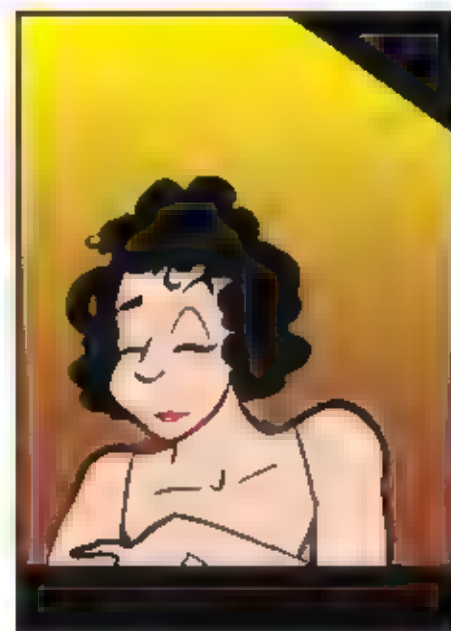
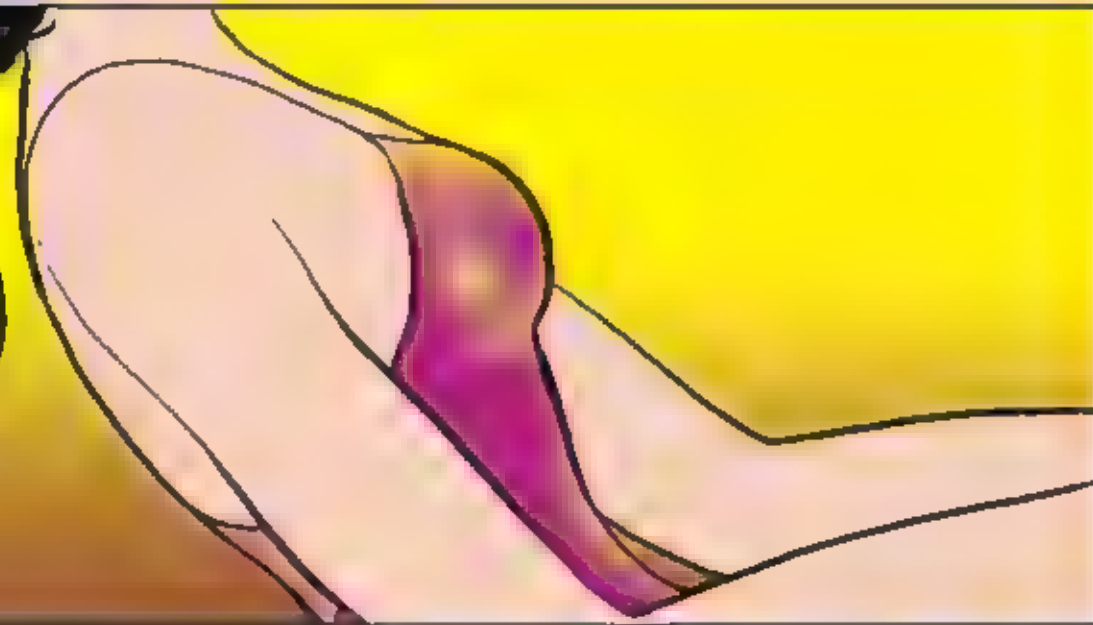
THERE
WAS NOTHING
ON TV.

Brokaw



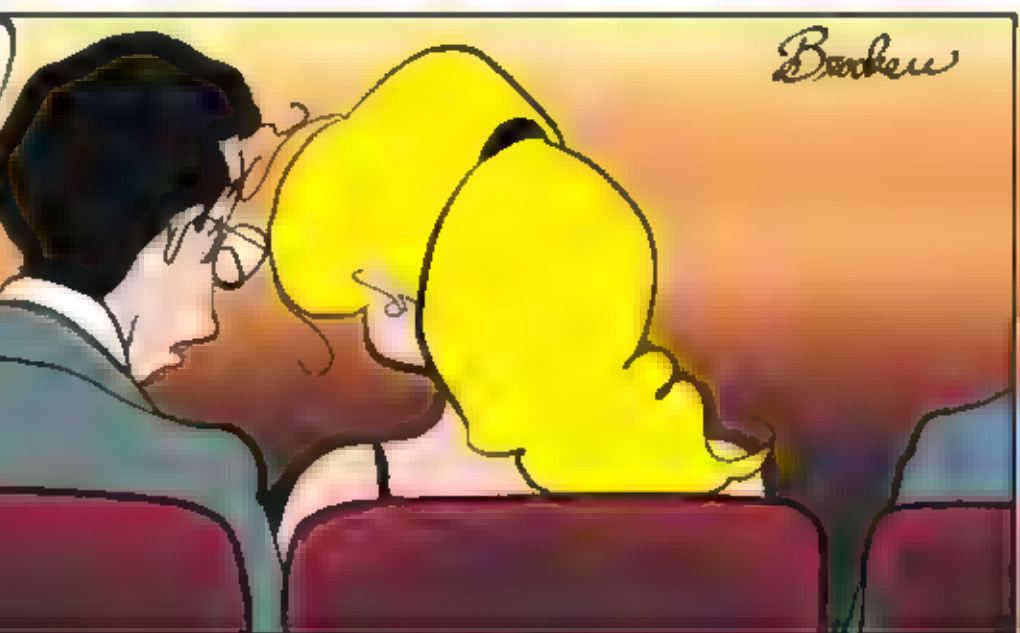


9 CHICKWEED LANE

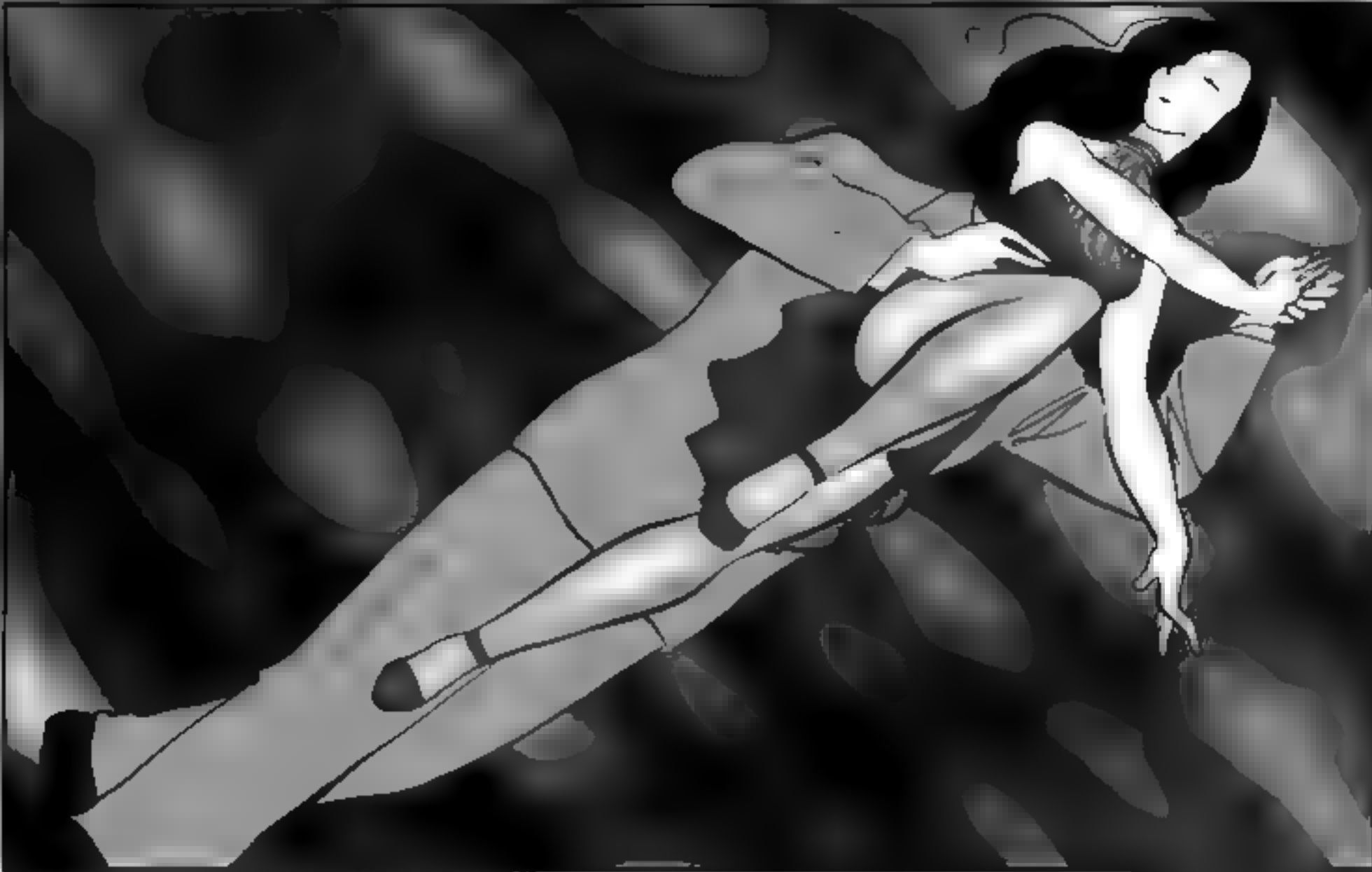


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I THINK ISABEL'S
IS THE ONLY
PERFORMANCE
OF CHOPIN'S
G MINOR
BALLADE
THAT IS
R-RATED.

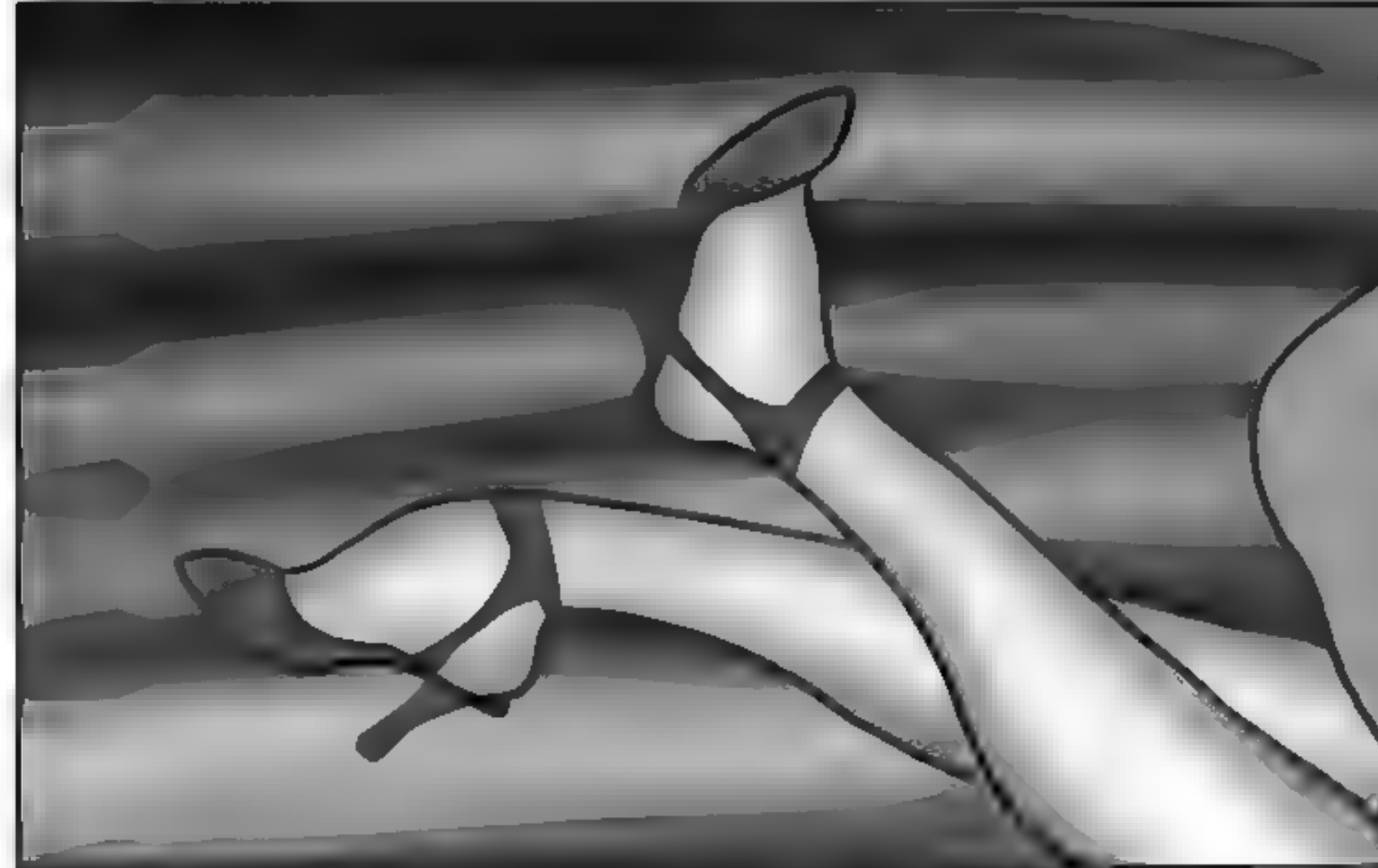












I FEEL THAT I TOOK GRAVE
ADVANTAGE OF YOU.
YOU MUST UNDERSTAND,
I WAS SO SPELLBOUND BY
YOUR DANCING,
YOUR TANGO.
I NEVER KISSED
YOU.

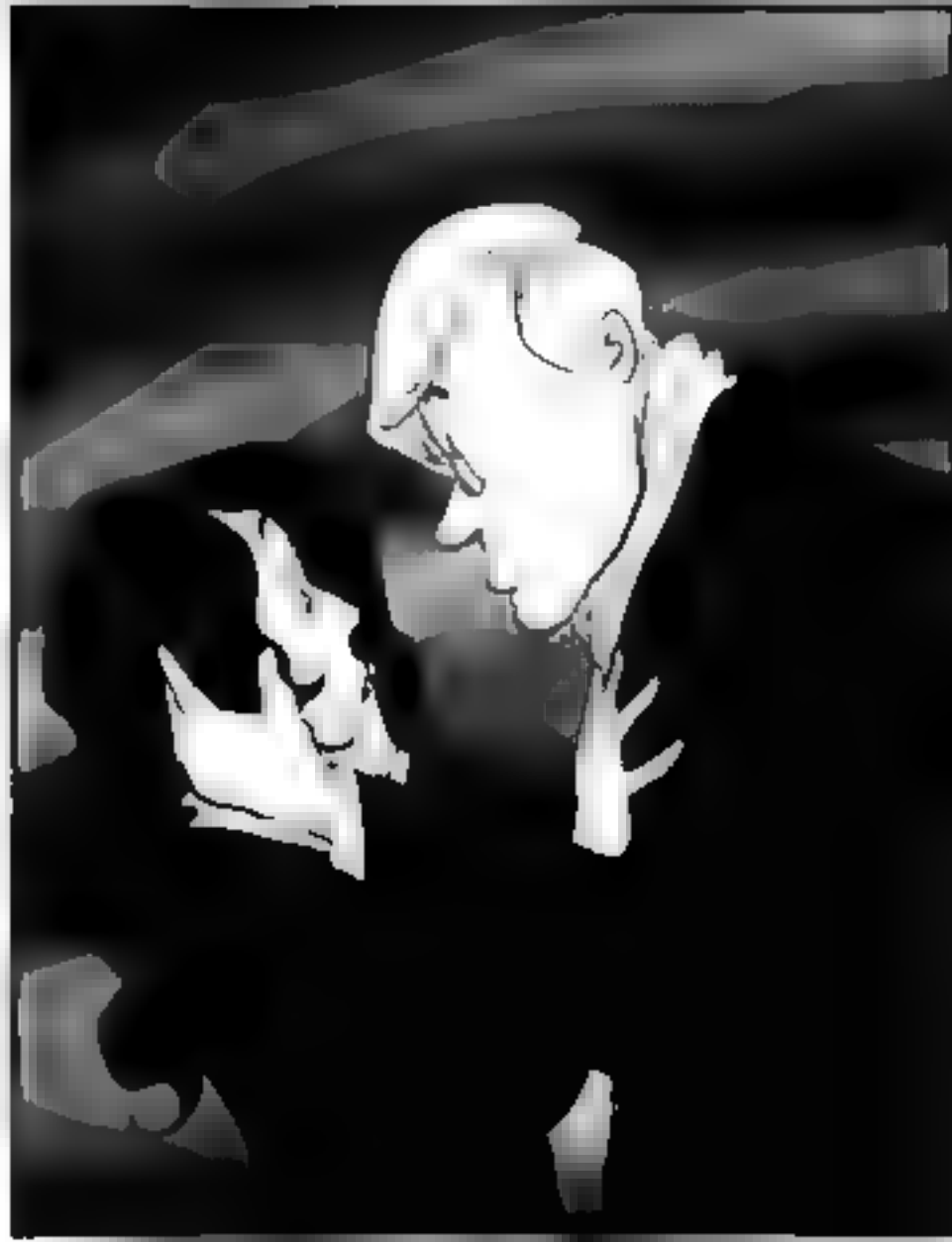


I ASSURE YOU,
YOU DID.

NO, IT WASN'T YOU...
I WAS KISSING THE WAY
YOU MOVE, THE
WAY YOUR BODY
SPEAKS FOR
ITSELF...

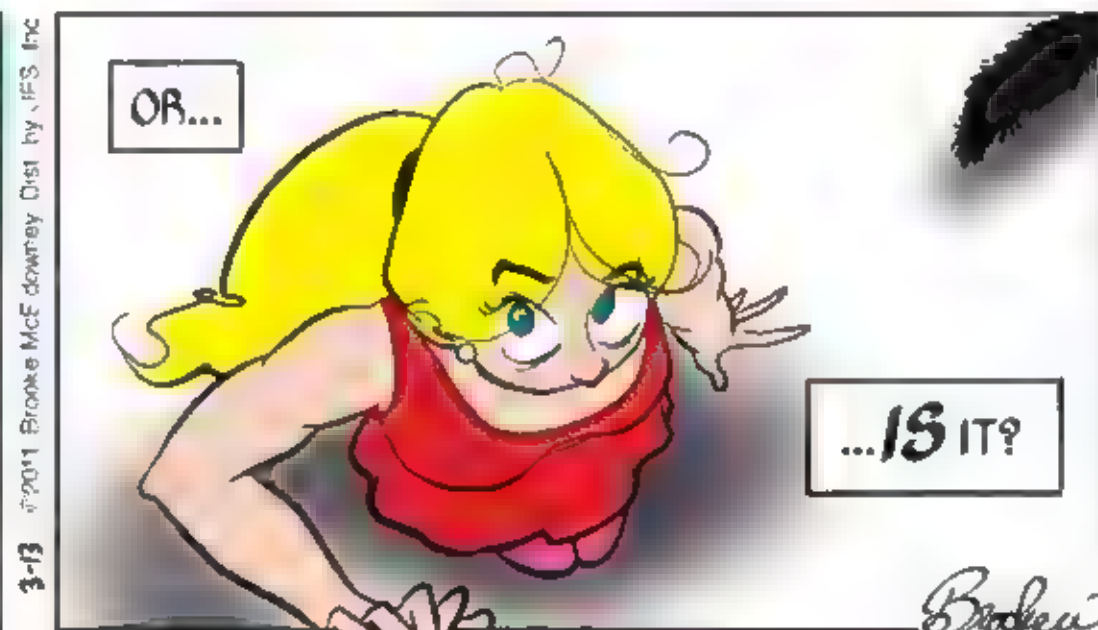
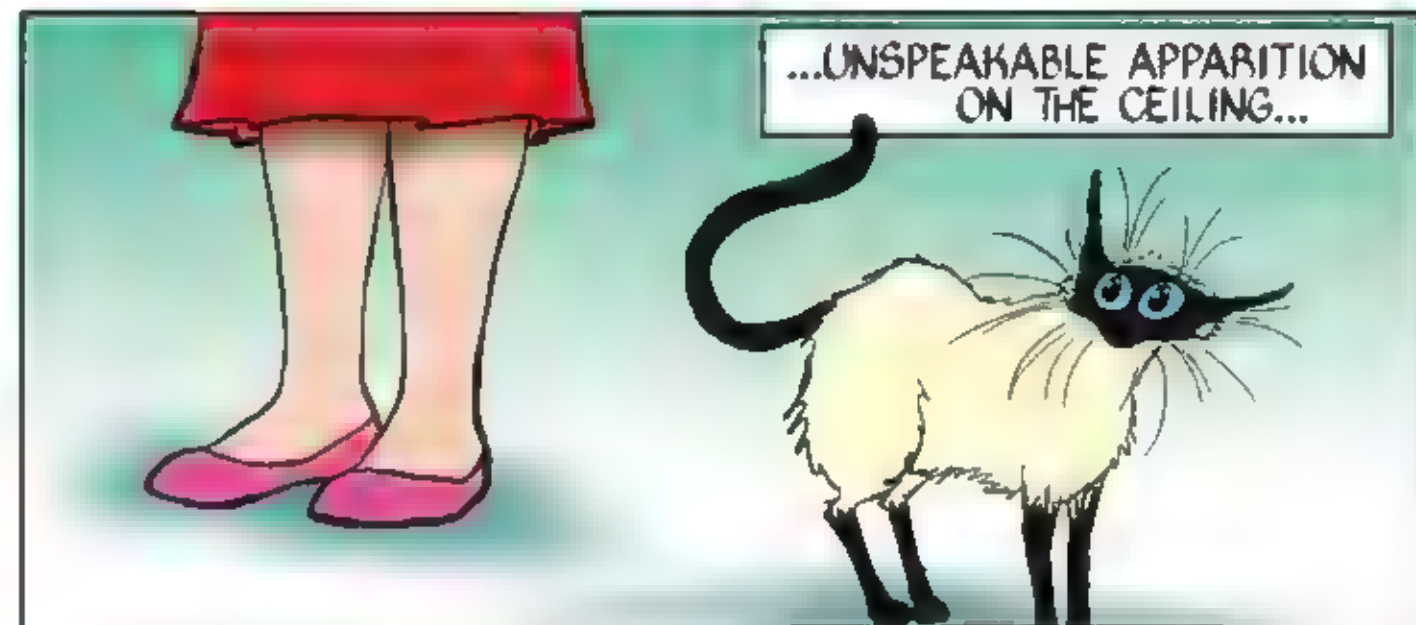


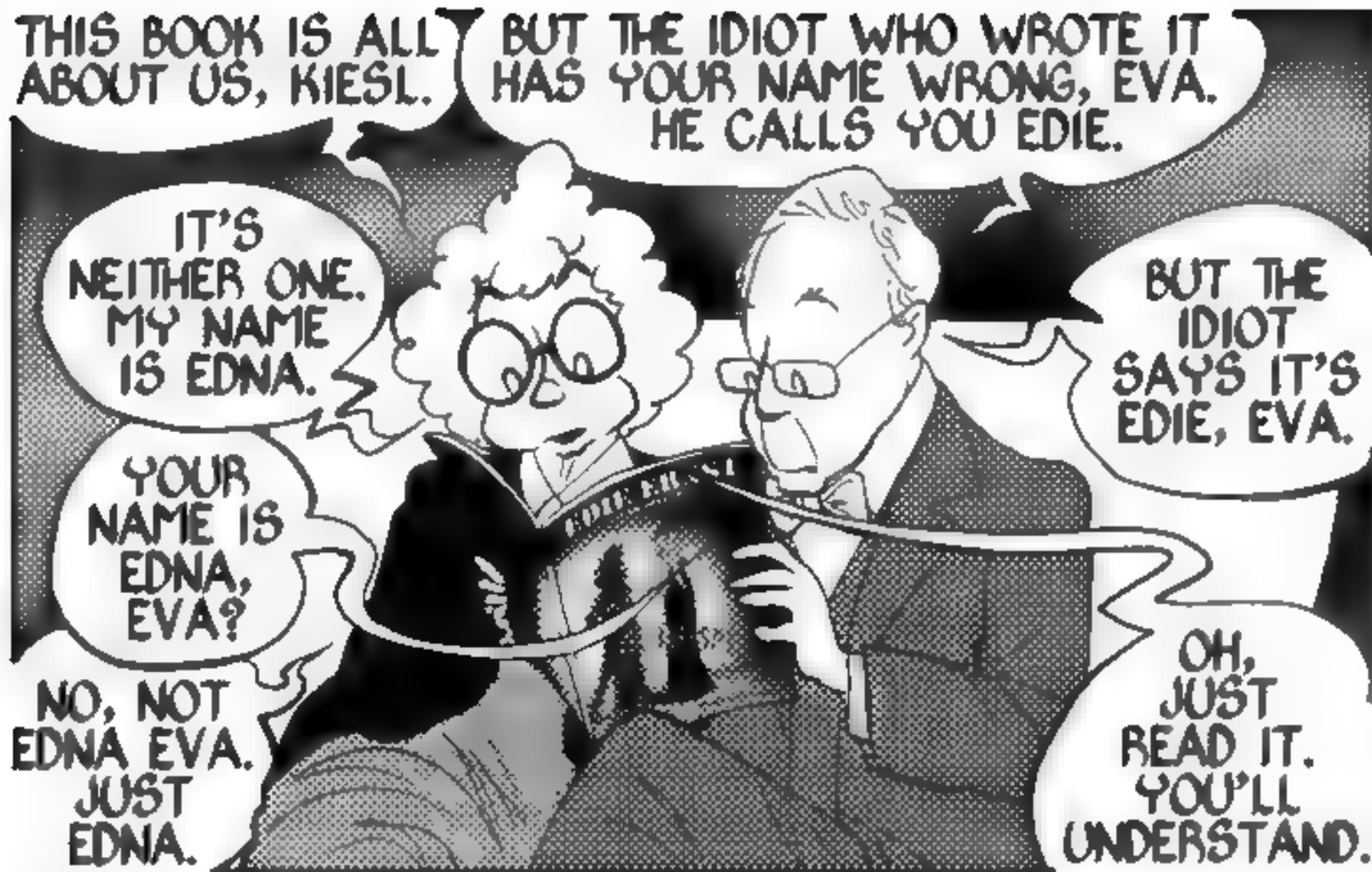
...YOUR PURE ARTISTRY.
I WAS KISSING YOU ON AN
ENTIRELY DIFFERENT PLANE.



I REALLY MUST
VISIT THIS PLANE
MORE OFTEN.

Barber

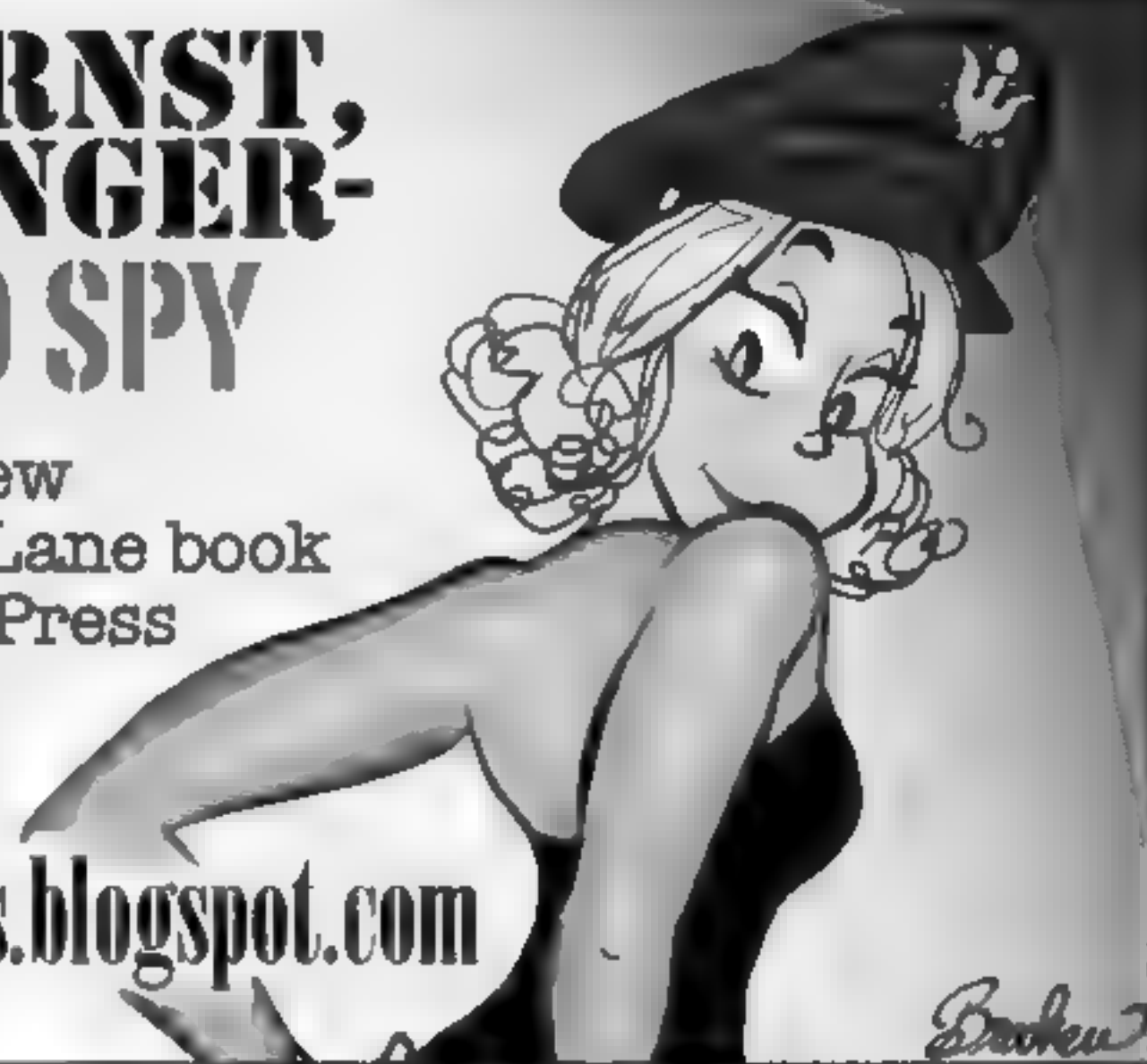




EDIE ERNST, USO SINGER- ALLIED SPY

The new
9 Chickweed Lane book
from Pib Press

<http://pibpress.blogspot.com>



I DIDN'T WANT
TO HURT YOUR
FEELINGS,
BUT I KNEW
THAT AS A
GAY MAN
YOU WERE
NEVER GOING
TO SEE ME
THE WAY I
SAW YOU,
SO I PUSHED
YOU AWAY
BEFORE
YOU
COULD
PUSH
ME.

VERY
CONVOLUTED.

ARE YOU
REALLY,
REALLY
GAY?

REALLY
REALLY.

...BUT THERE'S
SOMETHING IN
ME THAT
RESPONDS
TO ART
AND
STYLE
AND
BEAUTY,
AND IT OVER-
RIDES
ALL ELSE.
...AND THEN
I FALL HARD
IN LOVE WITH
NO OTHER
CONSIDERATION.

ARE YOU SAYING
YOU'RE IN LOVE
WITH ME?

...really
really.

BUT
PROBABLY
NOT IN
THE WAY
YOU THINK.

THE
WAY
YOU THINK
WILL DO
JUST
FINE.

Brachas



3-17 2011 Brooke McKen



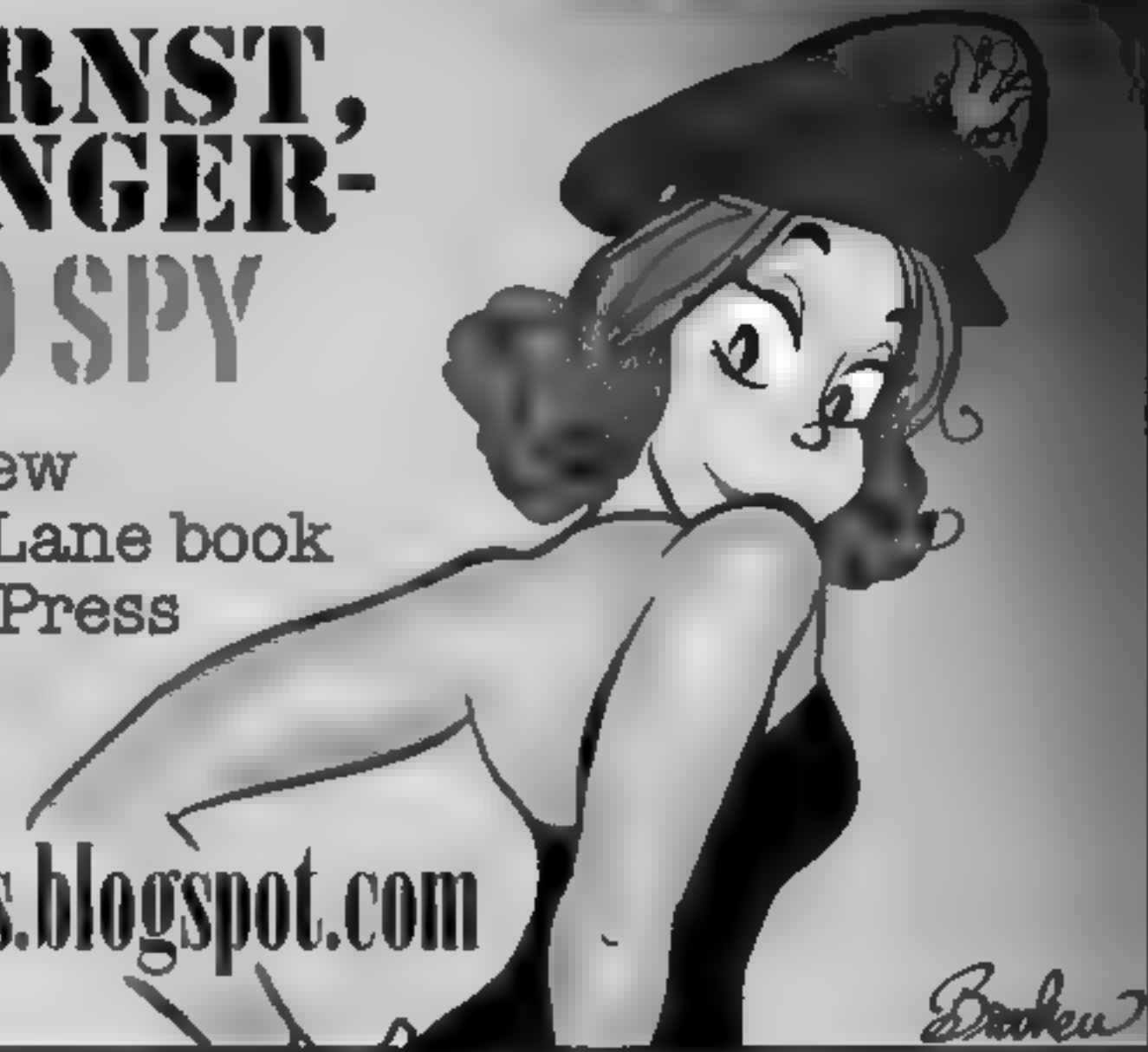




EDIE ERNST, USO SINGER- ALLIED SPY

The new
9 Chickweed Lane book
from Pib Press

<http://pibpress.blogspot.com>



9 CHICKWEED LANE

AMOS...

...DID
YOU LISTEN
TO ME?

I'M SORRY,
I COULDN'T
HEAR YOU
OVER YOUR
LEGS.



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YOU SEEMED TO BELIEVE YOU
HAD PLACED YOUR HAND EVER
SO AFFECTIONATELY
ON SOME
OTHER
GIRL'S
THIGH.

DON'T BE ABSURD...WHO
ELSE'S THIGH
WOULD I BE
TOUCHING?

PERHAPS,
FOR EXAMPLE,
THE ONE
FASTENED
TO THE
GIRL IN
OUR
SHOWER
RIGHT
NOW.

Brooke



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SO, WHEN DID YOU REALIZE IT WASN'T MY THIGH YOU WERE TOUCHING?

RIGHT AWAY...I'VE PARTNERED YOU BOTH IN BALLET.

I HAVE SOME FAMILIARITY WITH HOW YOU FEEL.

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3-23

I AM A GENTLEMAN, EDDA... THAT IS AS FAR AS THIS CONVERSATION GOES.

IN THE DANCE STUDIO, NOT IN THE BEDROOM.

ANYWAY, IT'S EASY TO TELL... HER THIGHS ARE SLIMMER THAN YOURS.

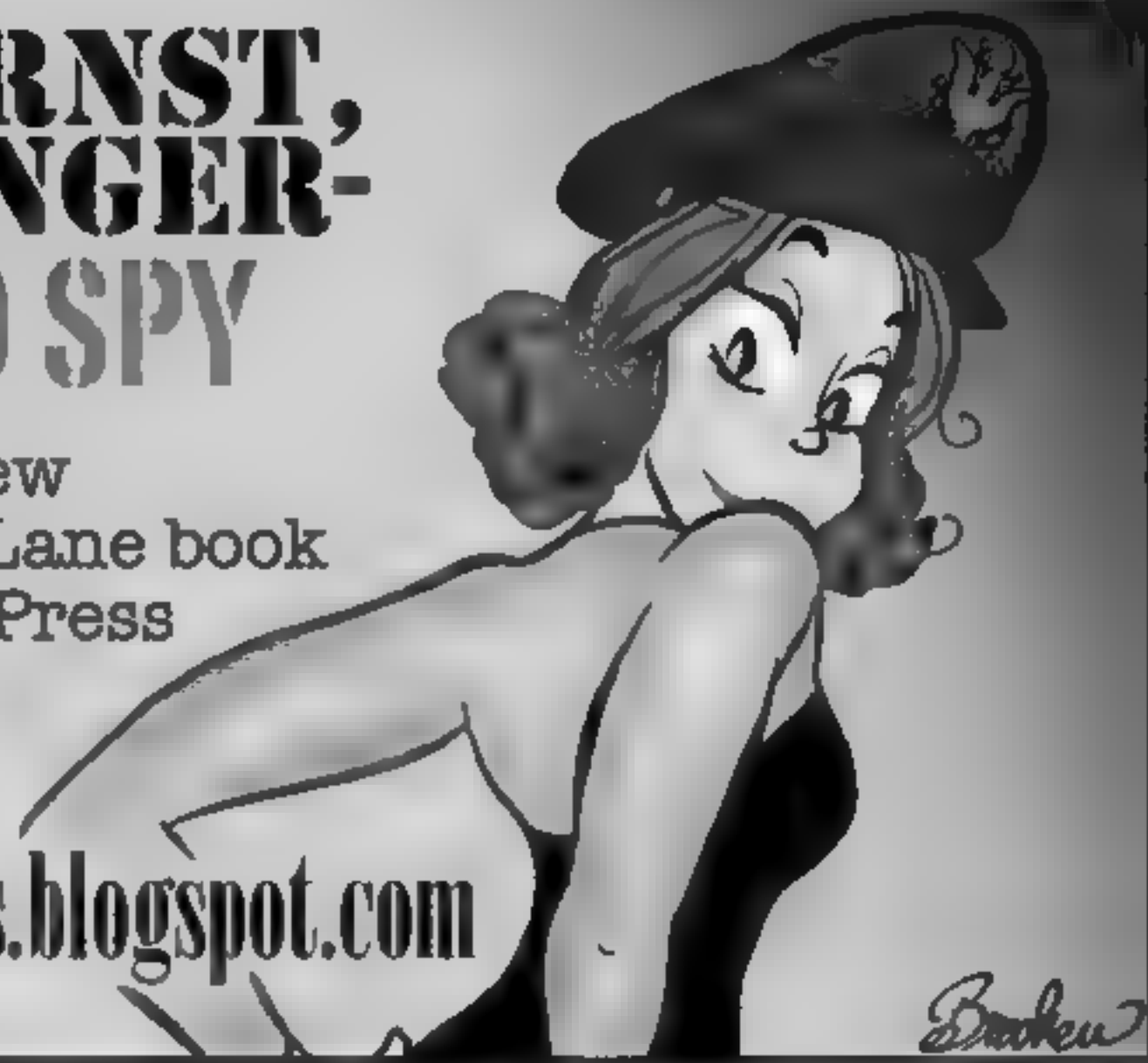




EDIE ERNST, USO SINGER- ALLIED SPY

The new
9 Chickweed Lane book
from Pib Press

<http://pibpress.blogspot.com>





THE POINT, SETH, IS WE'RE BOTH CONSENTING ADULTS.

FREE AGENTS.

WE'RE OUR OWN PEOPLE.

ABLE TO MAKE OUR OWN DECISIONS.

WE PLY THE STRAITS OF OUR OWN DESTINIES.

Brooks

WHEREVER
THINGS TAKE US -
HOWEVER THIS
WHOLE MATTER
TURNS OUT -
THERE'S ONE
THING I WANT
YOU TO PROMISE.

ON
ONE
POINT
I WANT
YOUR
SOLEMN
WORD
TOO.



3-26 • Review Ms. Fitzgibbon's Dist. by F.S. II



DON'T
TELL MY
MOM!

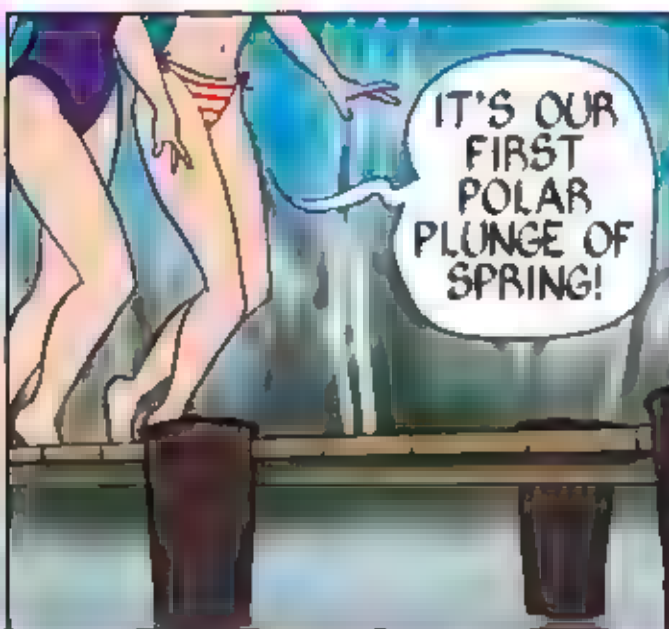
**DON'T
TELL MY
MOM!**

9 CHICKWEED LANE

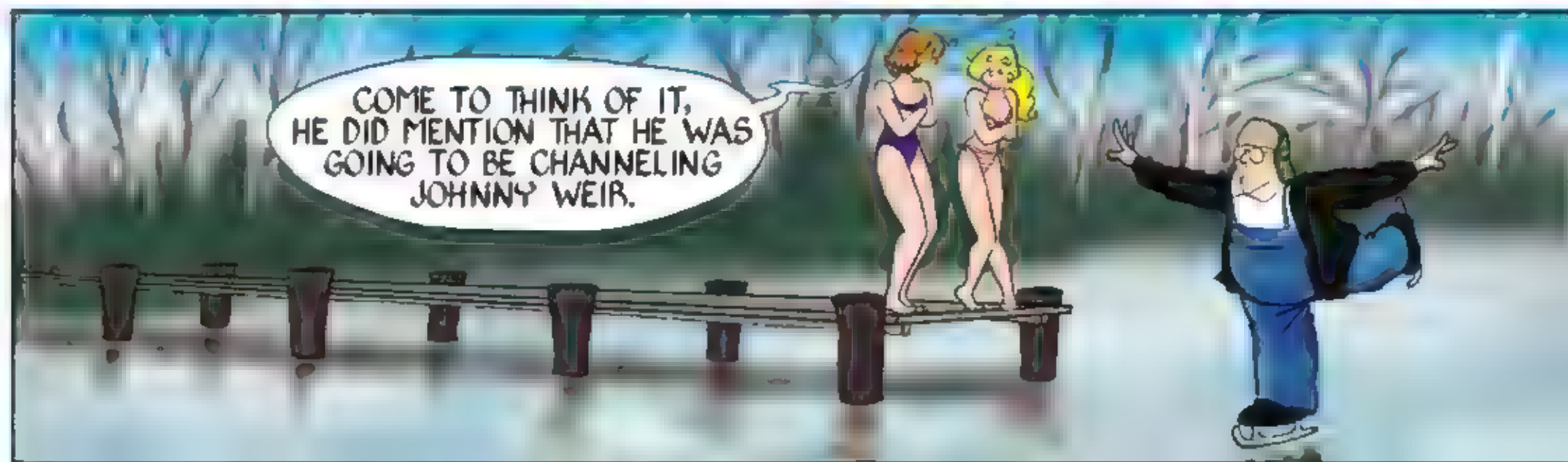
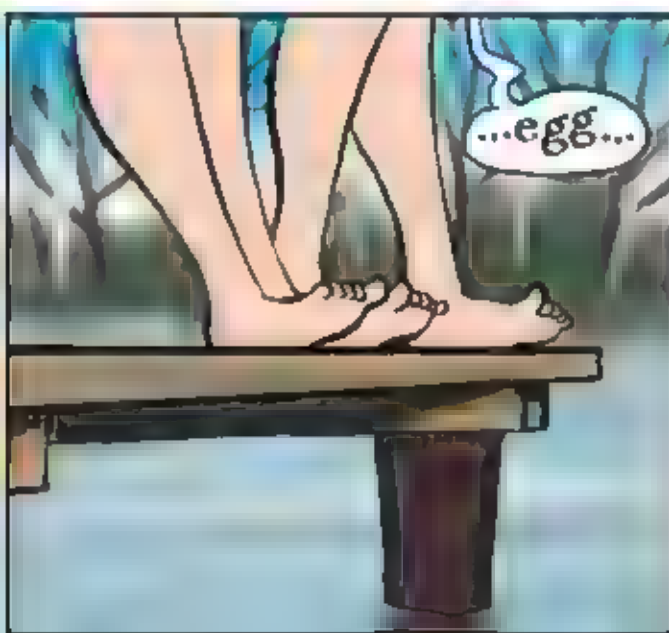
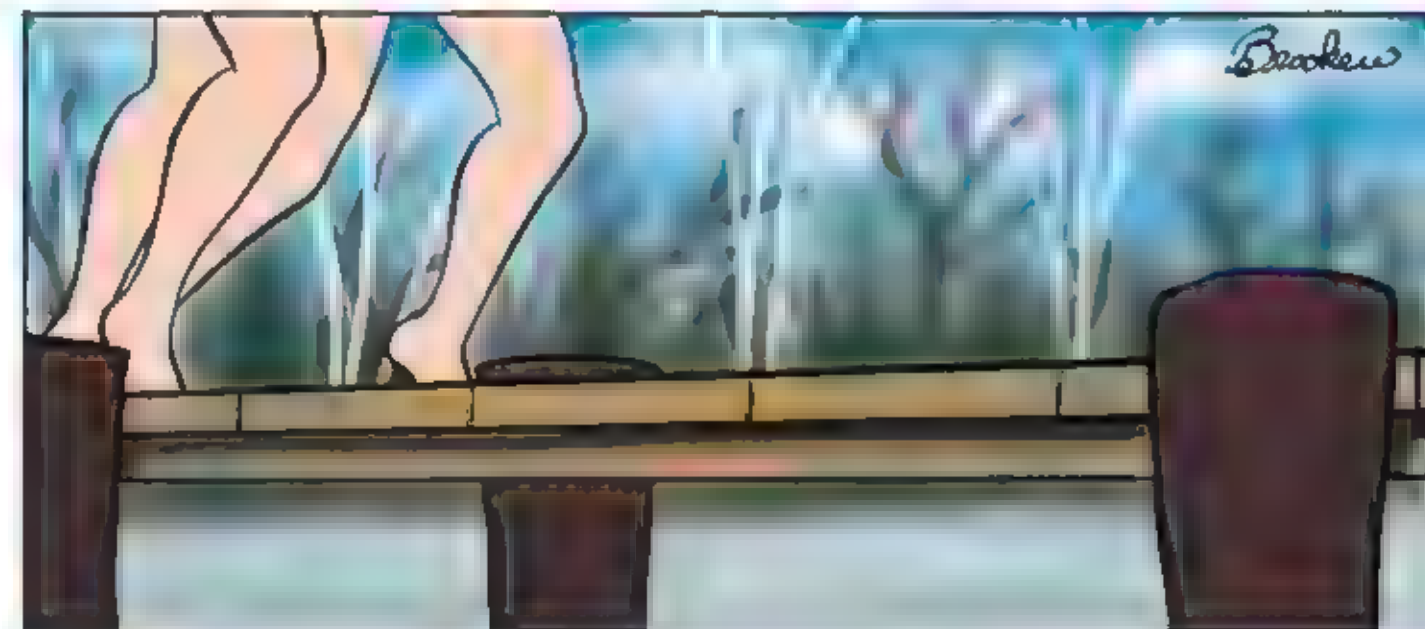
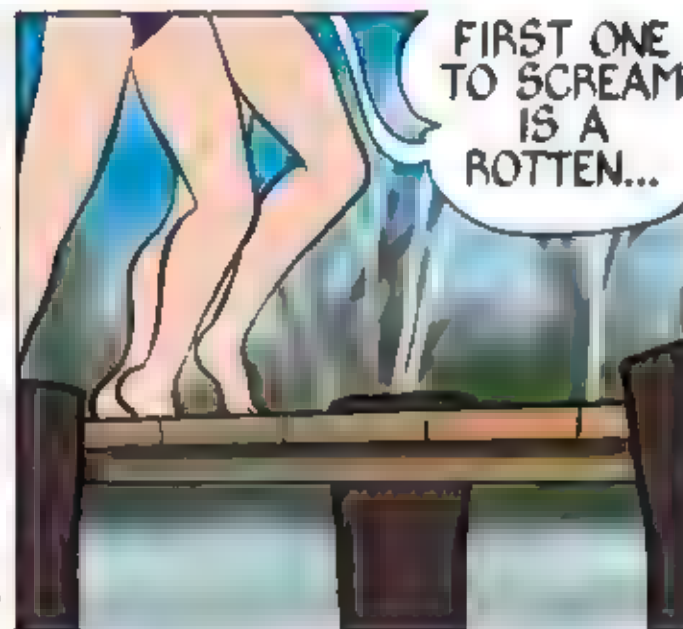
®

DON'T LOOK.
DON'T EVEN TURN.
JUST STEEL YOUR
RESOLVE, AND COUNT
DOWN...

THREE...
TWO...
...ONE...



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I SEE NO DISTINCTION BETWEEN
BEING GAY AND ALL MY
OTHER PERSONAL TRAITS.
THEY JUST MAKE UP
WHO I AM. THE ONLY
NOTICEABLE THING
THAT SETS MY
GAYNESS APART
FROM, SAY, MY
SIZE 13-WIDE
FEET IS THAT
NOBODY EVER
MAKES AN
ISSUE
OUT OF
MY FEET.



WOW! NOW THAT
YOU MENTION IT,
LOOK AT THE SIZE
OF THOSE DOGS.



Broken

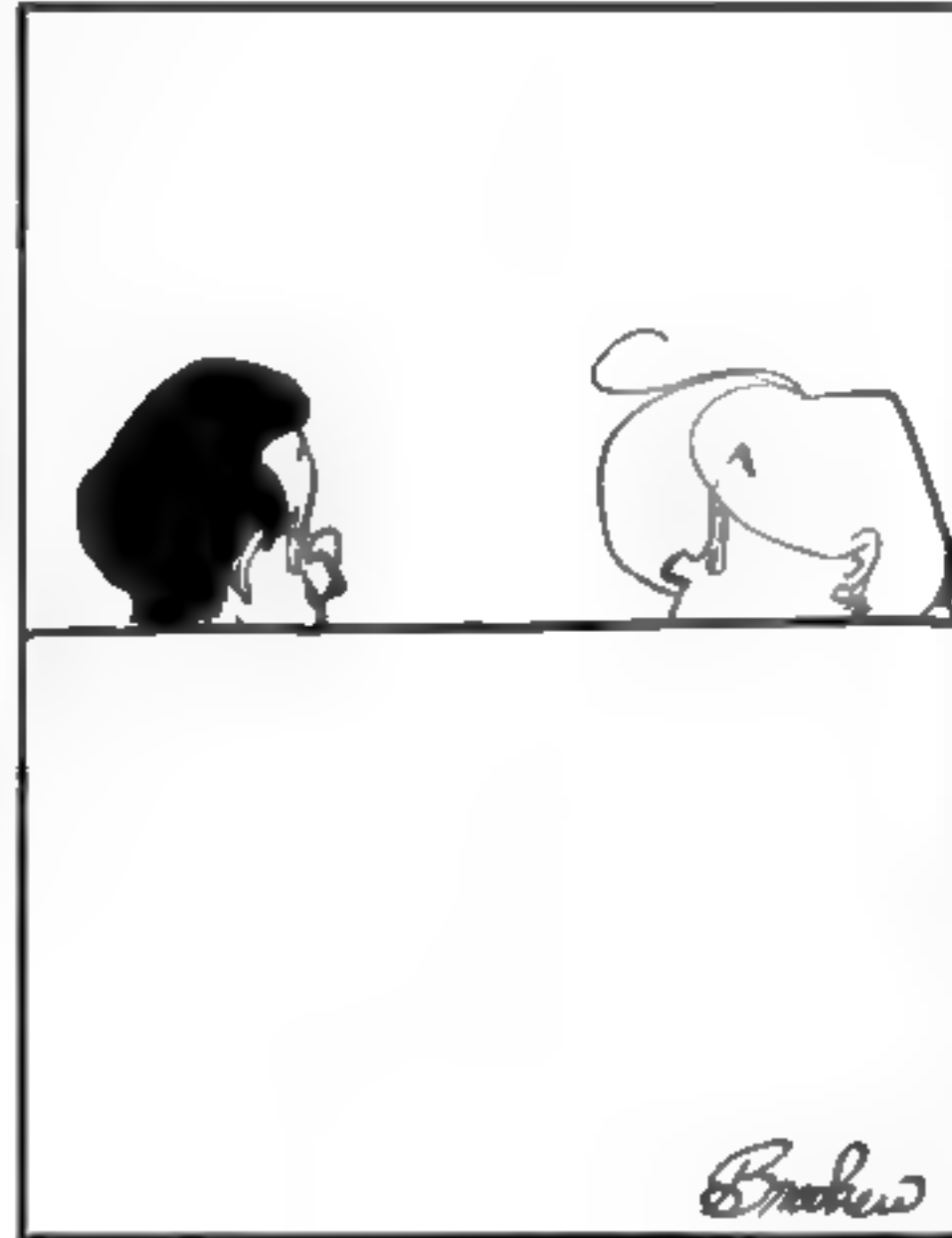


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Brooke

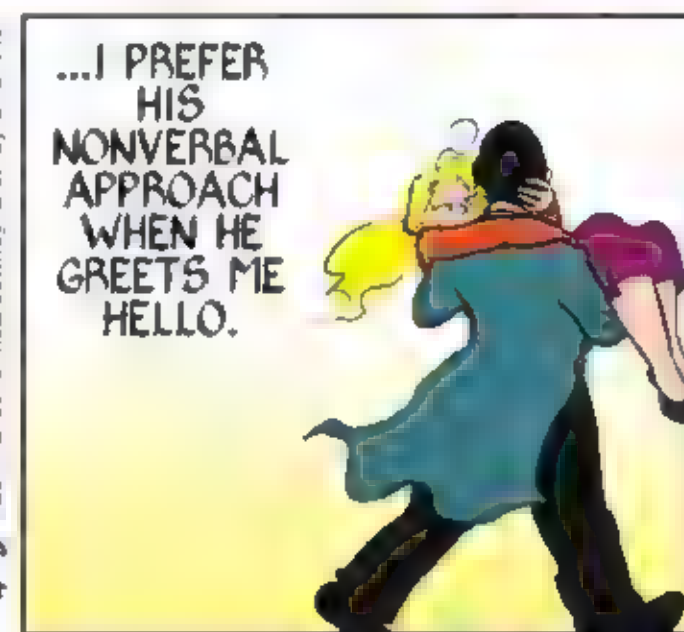
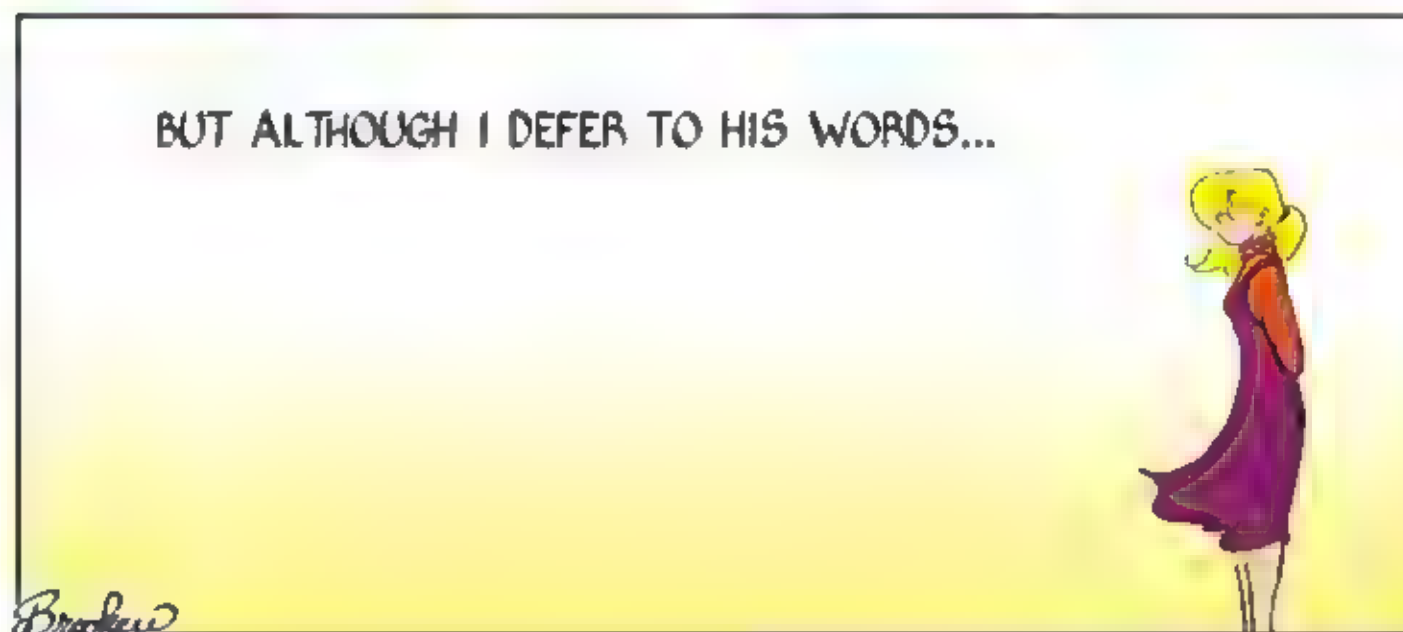
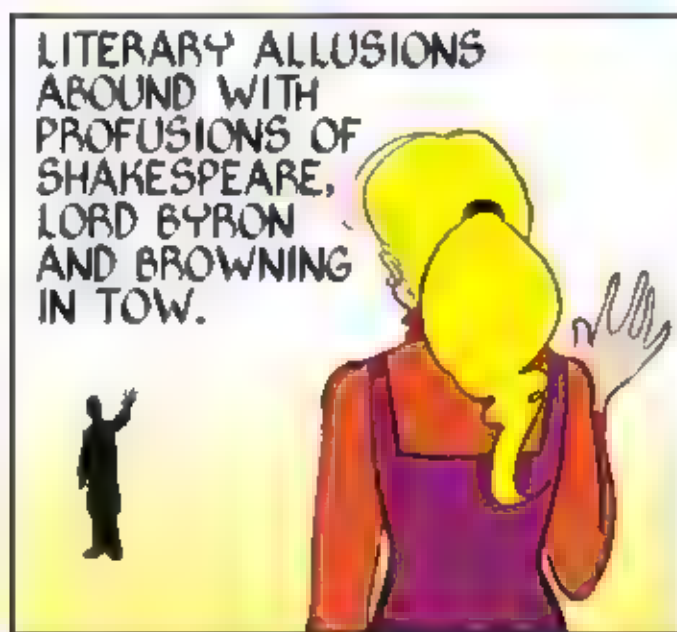
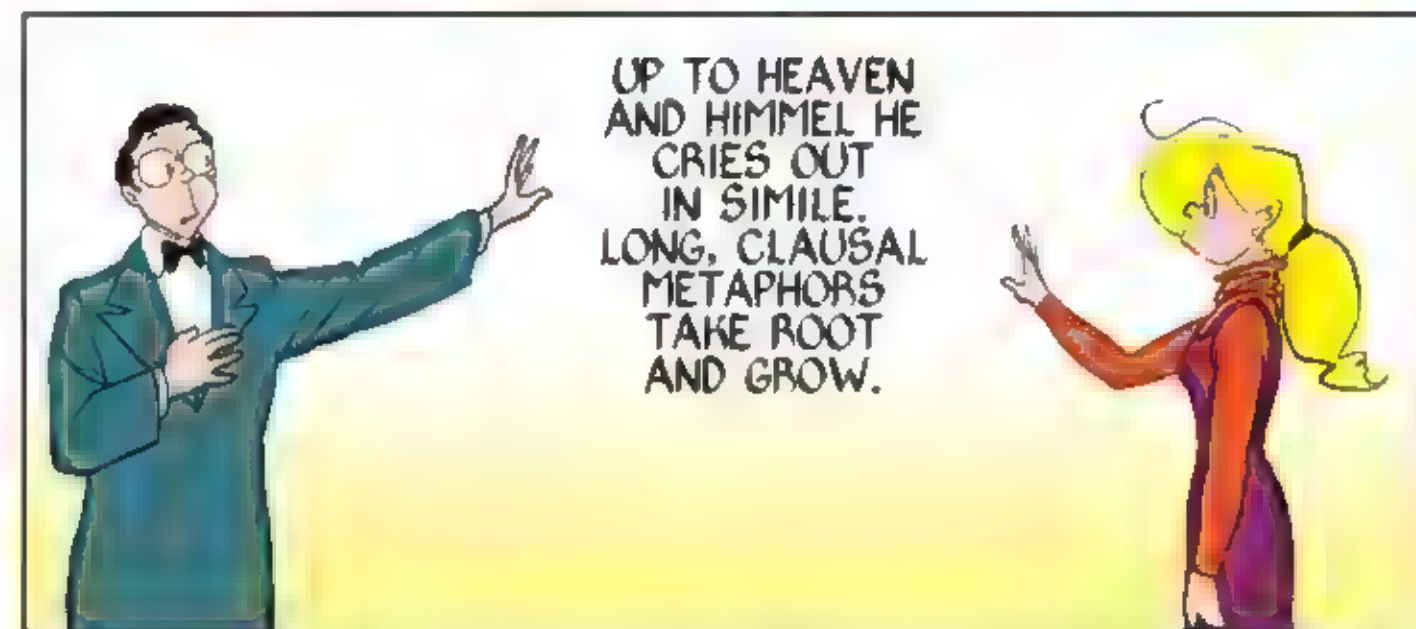
YOU'LL NEVER GUESS
WHAT HAPPENED
WITH SETH AND
FERNANDA.
CAN YOU
KEEP A
SECRET?

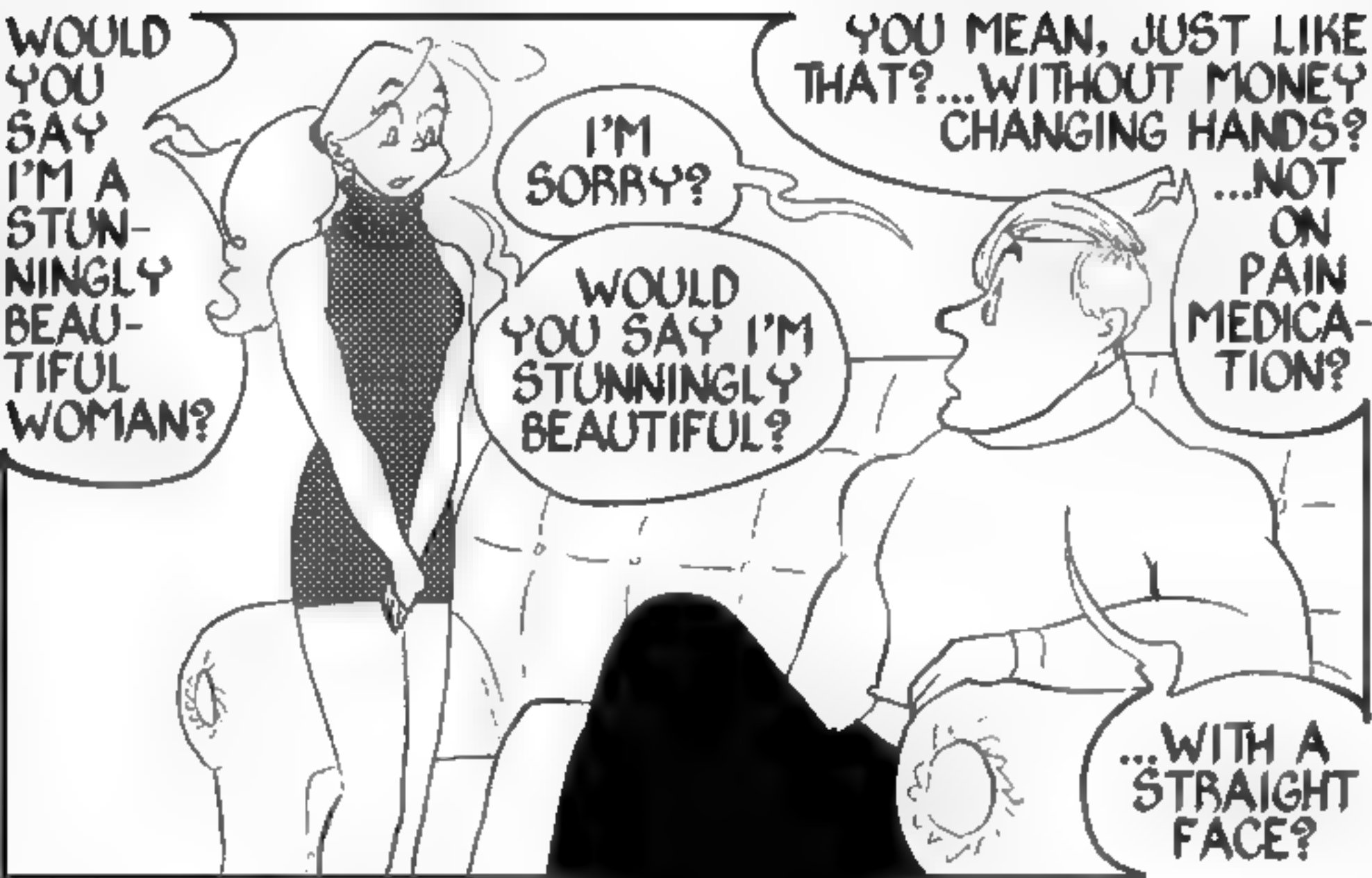
ABSOLUTELY!
WHAT YOU
TELL ME IN
CONFIDENCE
STAYS IN
CONFIDENCE.
NO WORD
OF WHAT
YOU IMPART
WILL EVER
STRAY
BEYOND
THIS
POINT.



YOU TAKE
ALL THE FUN OUT OF
SURREPTITIOUSNESS.







THE THING IS THAT FERNANDA
TOLD ME RIGHT OUT THAT I'M
A STUNNINGLY
BEAUTIFUL
WOMAN.

I FIND IT SOMEWHAT
DIFFICULT TO ASSOCIATE
THE WORDS "STUNNINGLY
BEAUTIFUL" WITH A GIRL
WHO HABITUALLY MINES
CHAIRS AROUND
THE HOUSE
WITH RUBBER
BLADDERS
THAT SIMULATE
THE SOUND
OF ACUTE
FLATULENCE.

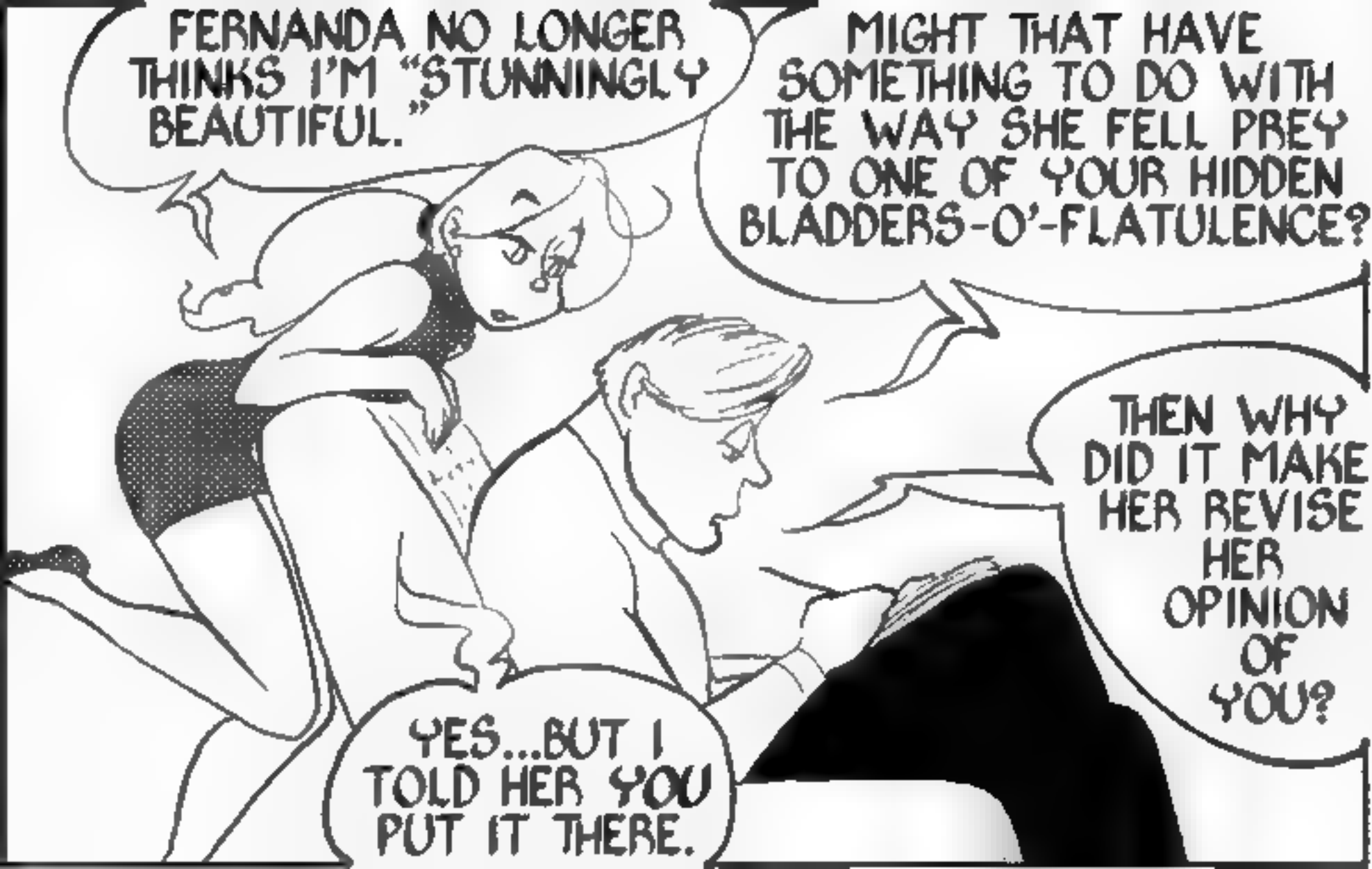
WELL, FERNANDA
DIDN'T HAVE THAT DIFFICULTY.
...ON MY SACRED HONOR.

Brooke

HAS SHE TAKEN
A SEAT YET IN THE
BREAKFAST NOOK?

FERNANDA, NO!
DON'T SIT DOWN!
DON'T...

PHLEBBTH...

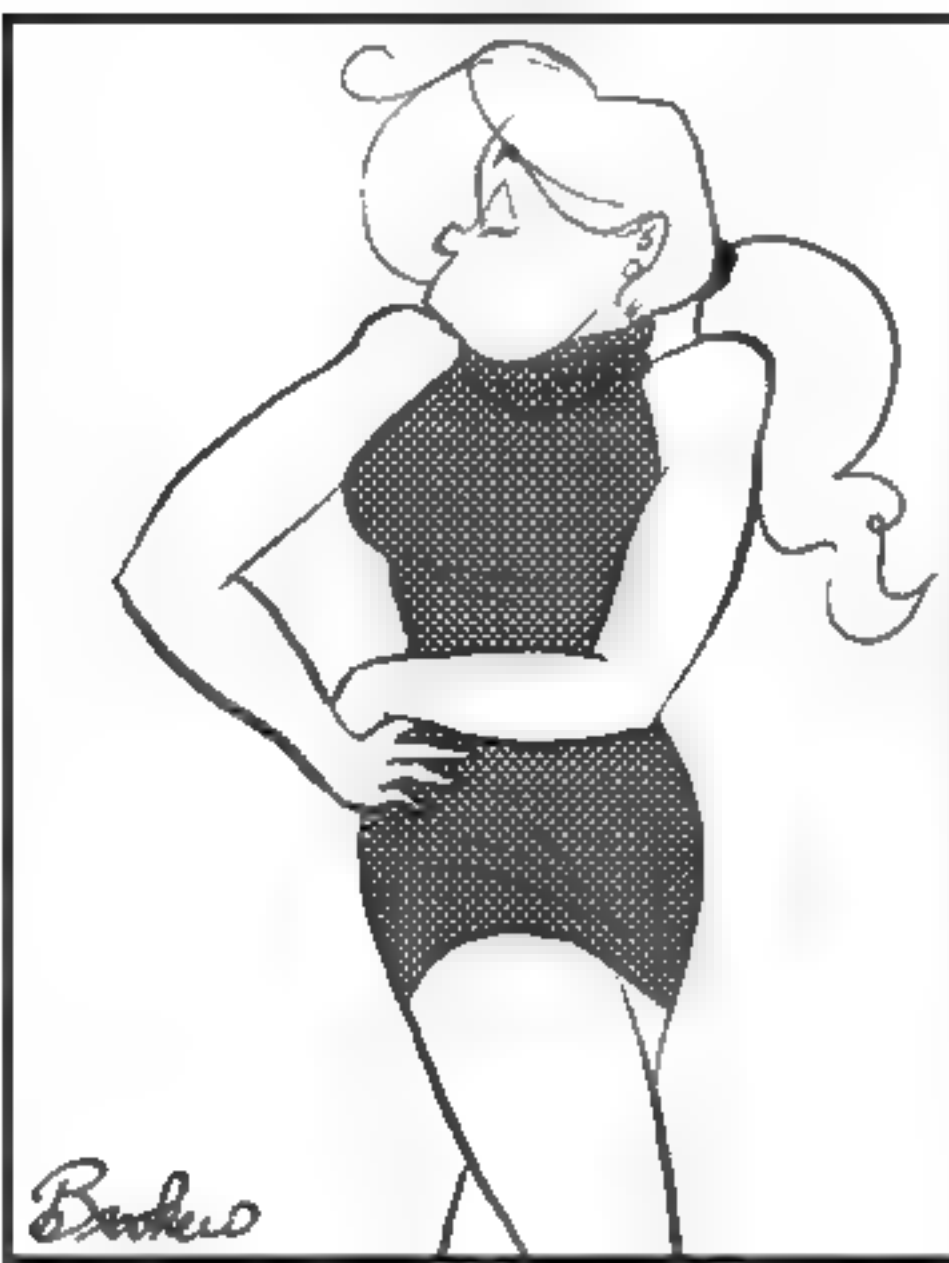




OKAY...I WASN'T
PROPERLY IN THE
ZONE. I'M GOING
TO BE SEXY
RIGHT NOW!
...SO PAY
ATTENTION.



<http://chickweedcafe.blogspot.com>



Brooke

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MAN! YOU'RE GOING TO
HAVE TO STOP. I DON'T
KNOW IF YOU'RE SEXY,
BUT MY
EYES ARE
STARTING
TO BURN.

I think
I just
knotted
a vital
organ.

WOMEN ARE NOT
PHYSICALLY ALLURING
TO ME, EDDA,
OR SEXY OR
SEDUCTIVE.
IT'S THE
WAY I AM.
YOU CAN'T
CHANGE
THAT.

I SEE...
...FERNANDA?

YES?

WOULD
YOU RAISE
YOUR RIGHT
INDEX FINGER?

YOU
MEAN...

Brooke

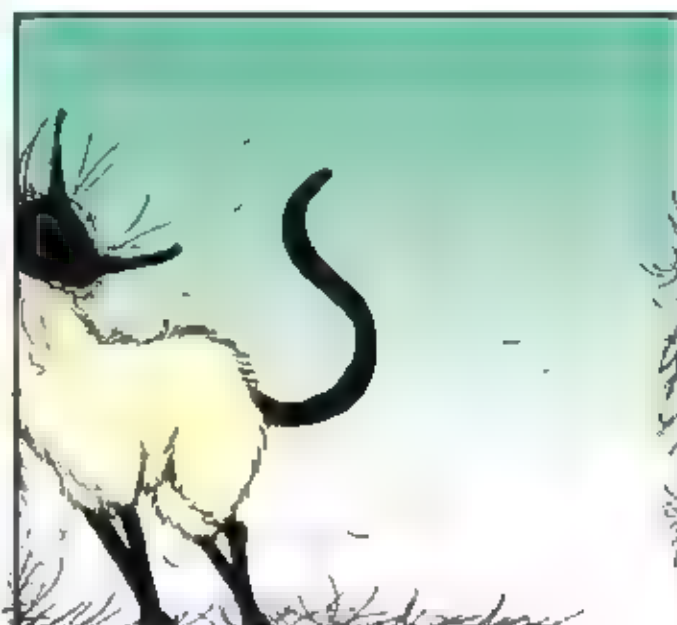
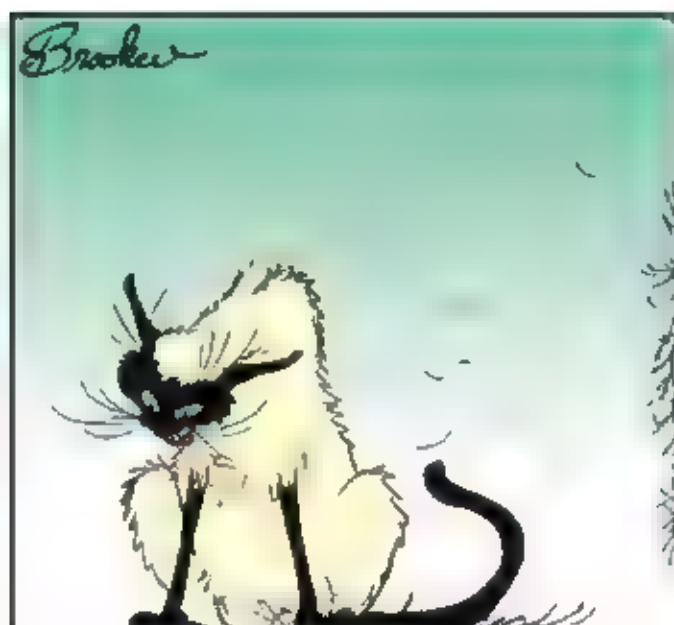
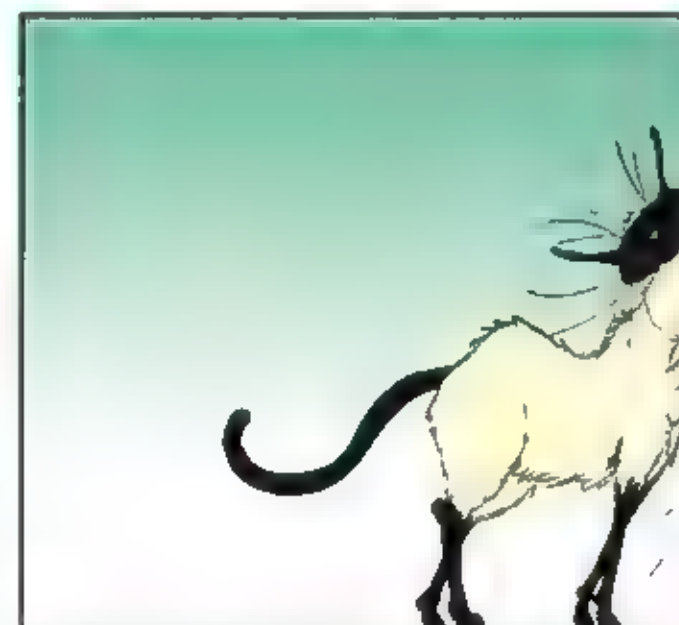
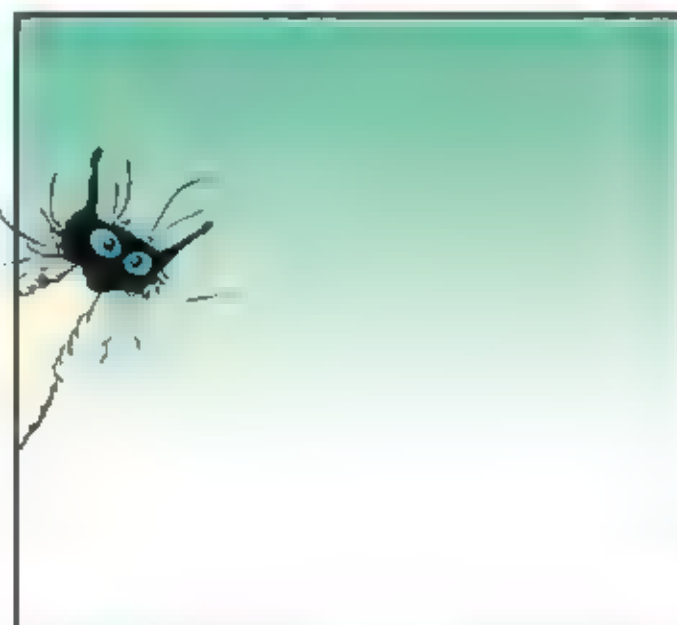
<http://chickweedcafe.blogspot.com>

...LIKE
THIS?

MARK?...
IT'S MAXINE
THE OBOE
PLAYER
ALL OVER
AGAIN.

TIE ME TO
A MAST!
...GOUGE
OUT MY
EYES!

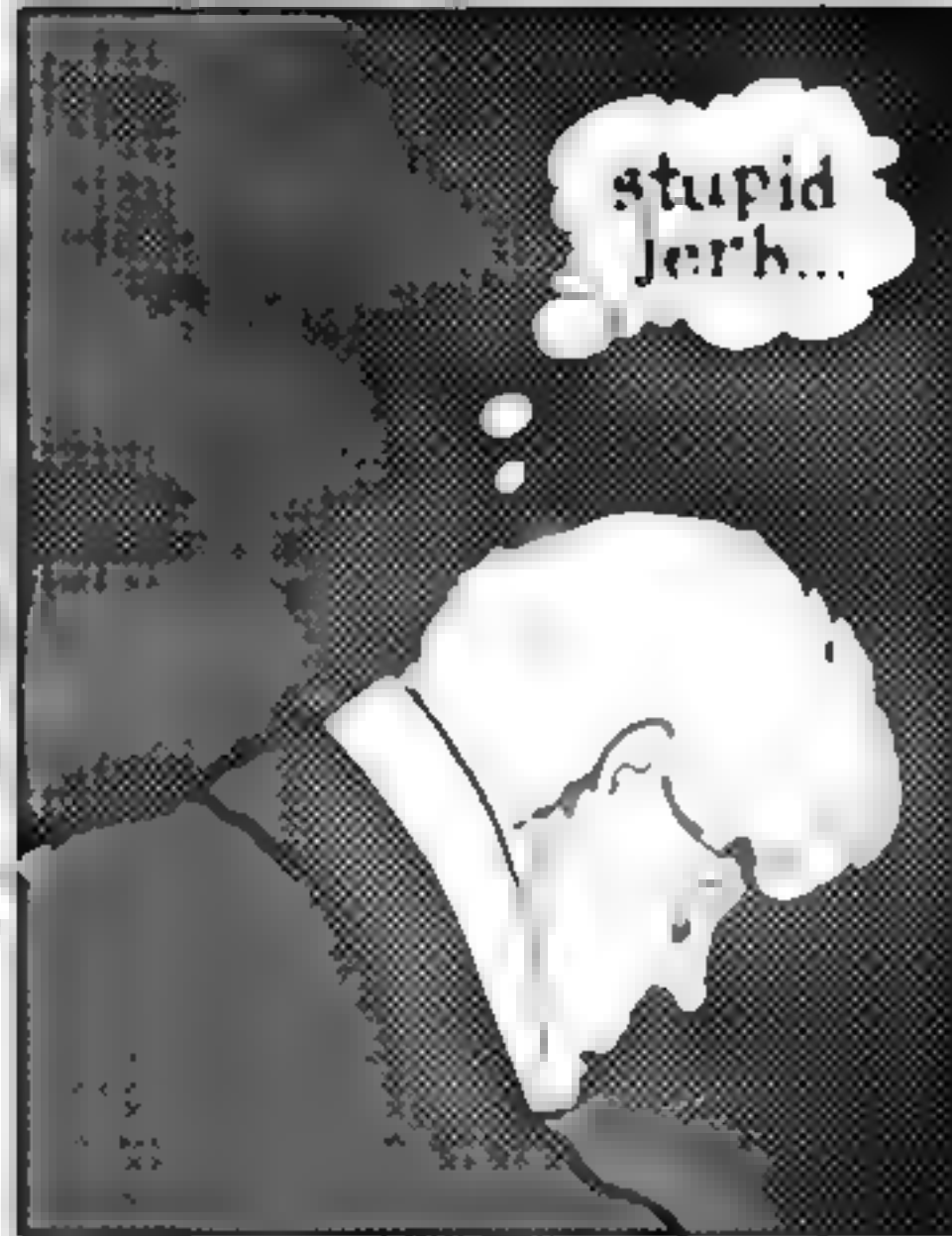
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4-10 ©2011 Brooke McE Jowrey Dist. by LFS Inc.

THAT HOMEY,
LIVED-IN FEEL





I CAN'T LEAVE YOU BY YOURSELF
FOR AN INSTANT BEFORE YOU START
GETTING INTO MISCHIEF...THROWING
BALLS THROUGH THE NEIGHBORS'
WINDOWS, WALKING ON PICKET
FENCES...MUSSING THE HAIR OF
HOMOPHOBE, ARGENTINE
CORYPHEES
TILL THE COWS
COME HOME.



ALPHA DOG, IT'S RED STOAT!
BOGEY MOVING NORTH ON
AMSTERDAM AT 81ST.

RED
STOAT
OUT!

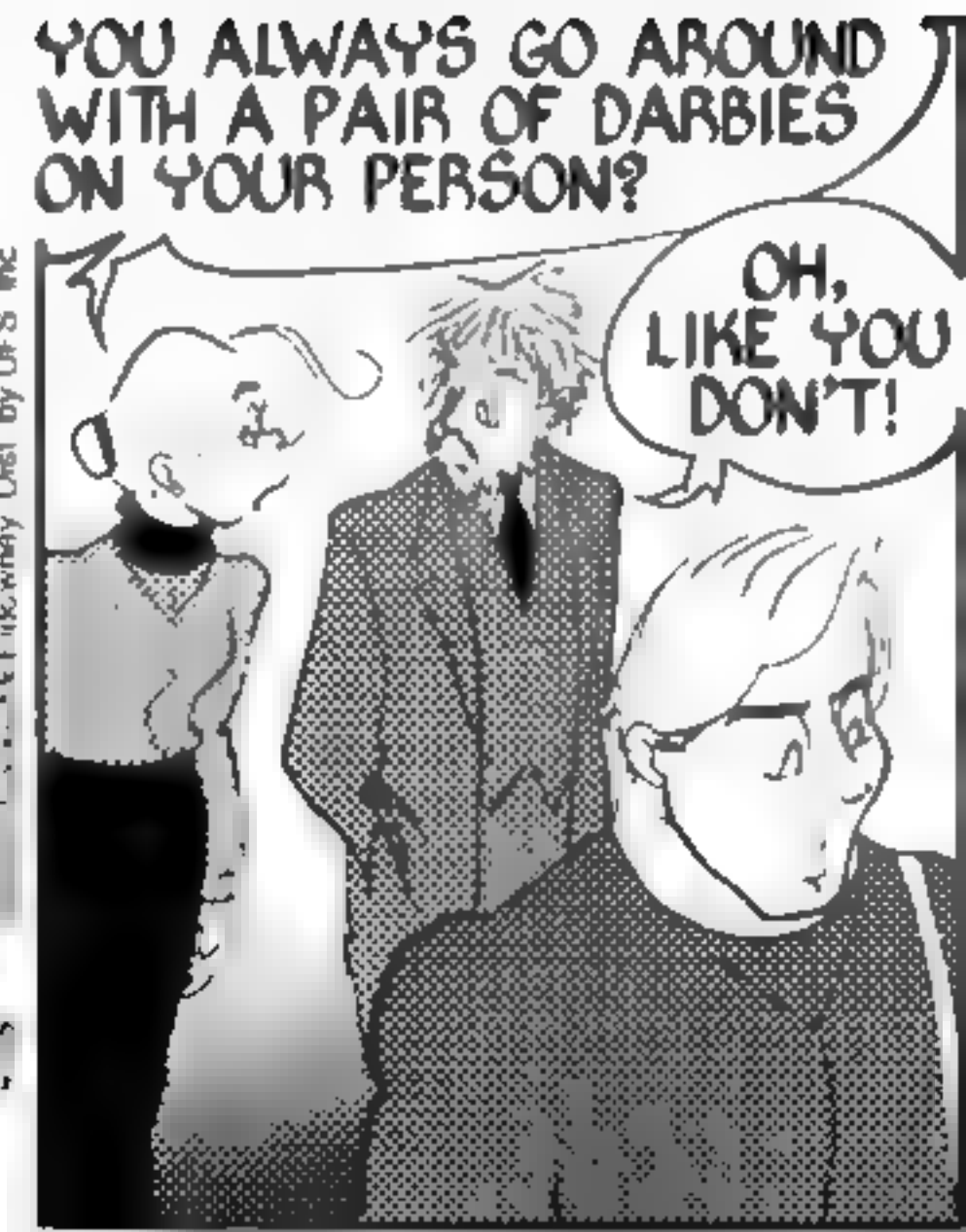
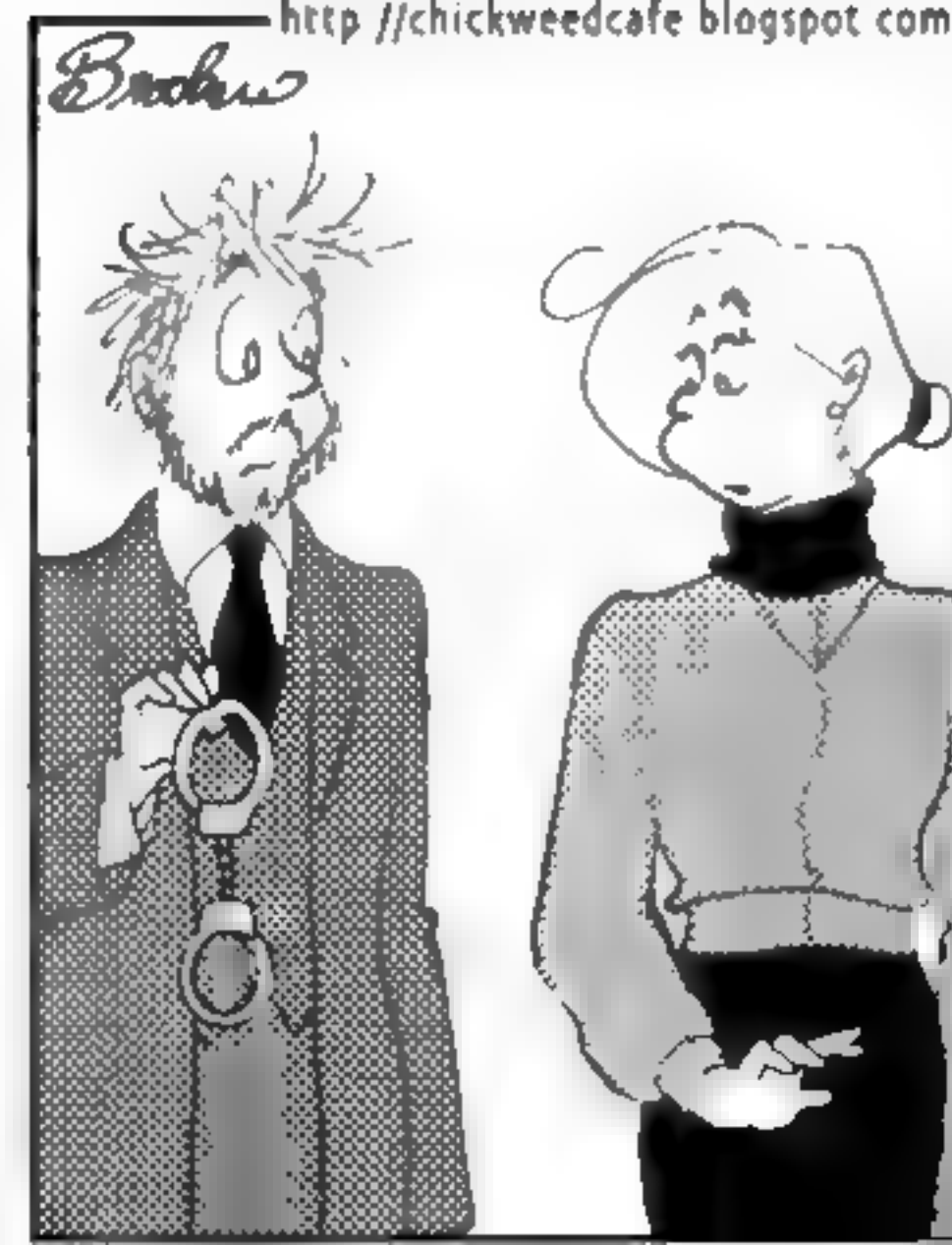
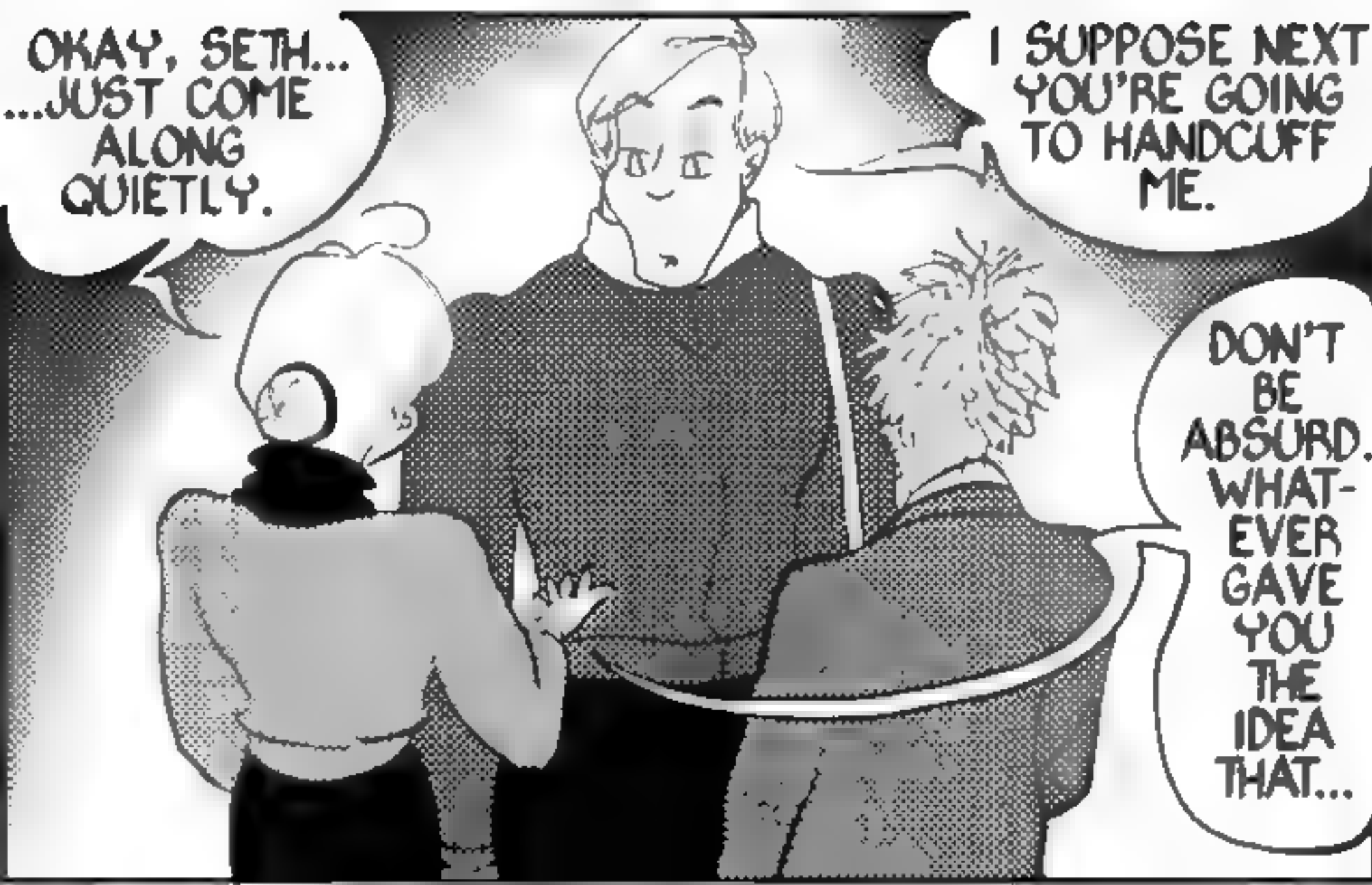
...WHAT?





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THIS IS AN INTERVENTION, SETH.

IT'S ABOUT WHAT YOU'VE BEEN DOING WITH FERNANDA.



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YOU'VE GOT TO STOP SEEING HER.

WHAT?! HE'S GOT TO TALK TO HER.

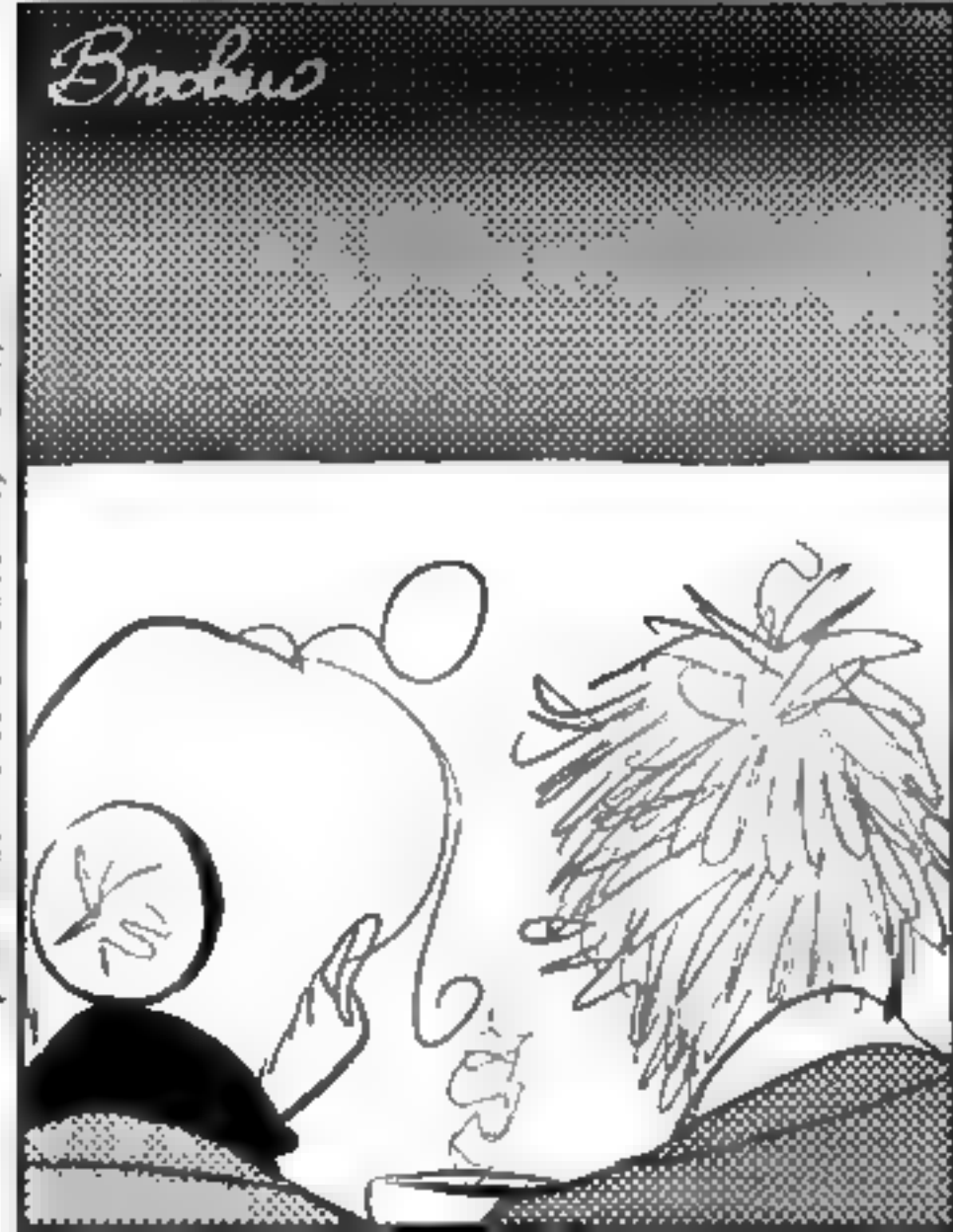


WAIT A MINUTE! THAT'S NOT WHY WE'RE HERE!

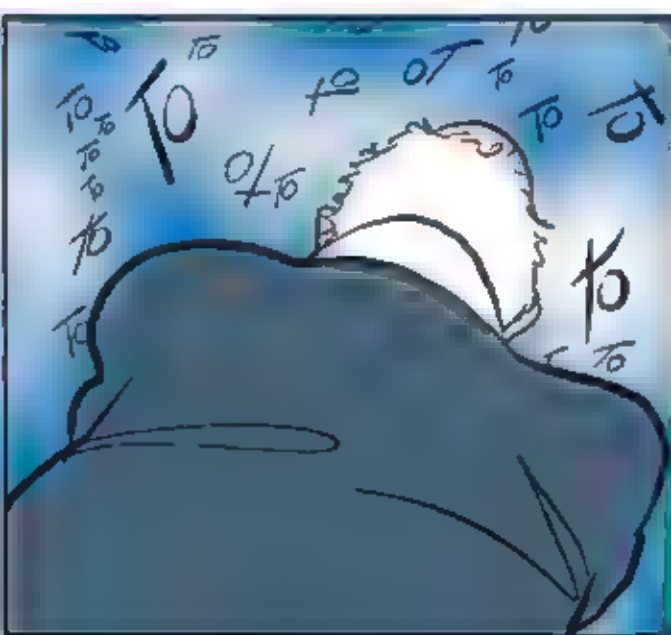
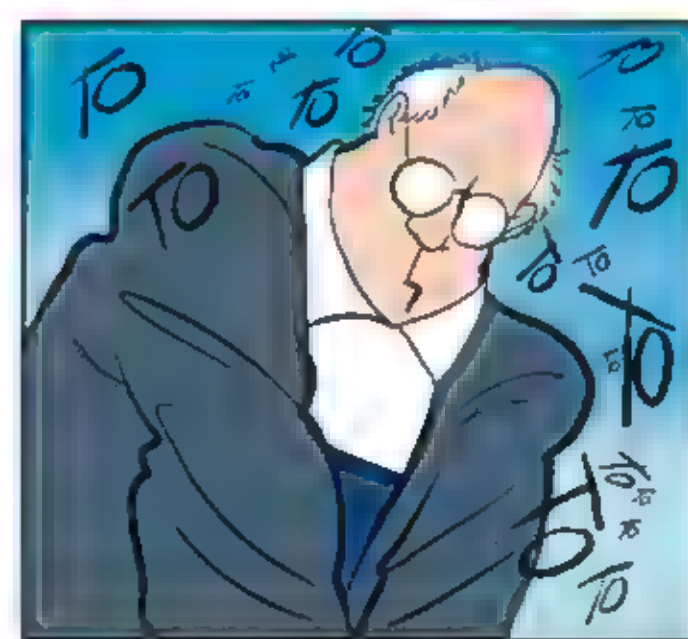
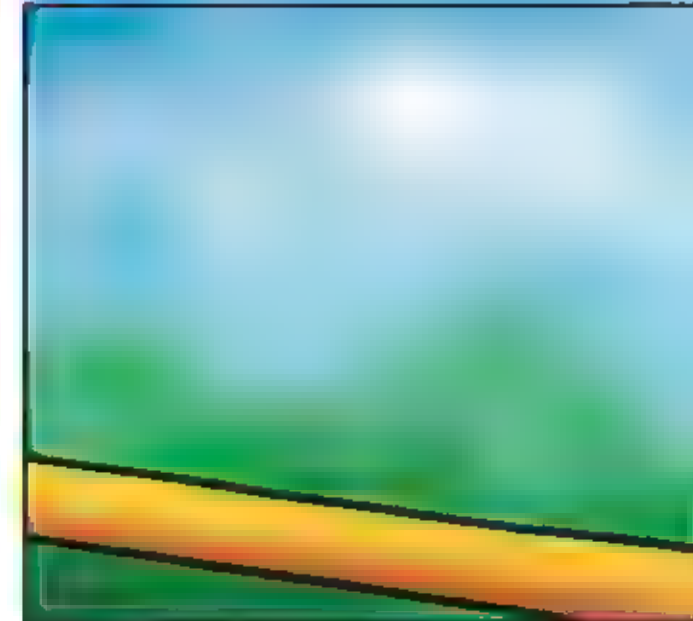


IT MOST CERTAINLY IS! STICK TO THE PROGRAM!

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Brooke





THIS CRUSH
FERNANDA IS
NURSING FOR
YOU DOESN'T
MATERIALLY
DISTINGUISH
HER FROM
EVERY OTHER
GIRL IN THE
BALLET
COMPANY.

YOU'RE NOT SAYING YOU ALL
HAVE CRUSHES ON ME!?
AM I THAT MUCH
OBJECTIFIED?



NO.
I THINK IT'S
BECAUSE
YOU'RE
SWEET AND
KIND AND
THOUGHTFUL
AND
CONSIDERATE
AND
HONKIN'...

"HONKIN'?"



SORRY.
A HUGE BACKLOG
OF BRAIN SLUDGE JUST
BROKE LOOSE AND SLOPPED
ALL OVER MY SENTENCE.



Brooke

<http://chickweedcafe.blogspot.com>

FERNANDA WILL FORGIVE ME.
FOR WHOM CAN WE FORGIVE
BUT THOSE WHO
WILL FORGIVE
THEMSELVES?

A black and white illustration of a man's face and upper torso. The man has a large, bulbous nose, a slight smile, and is looking upwards. He is wearing a dark, textured garment. The background is white with a dark, textured area at the bottom.



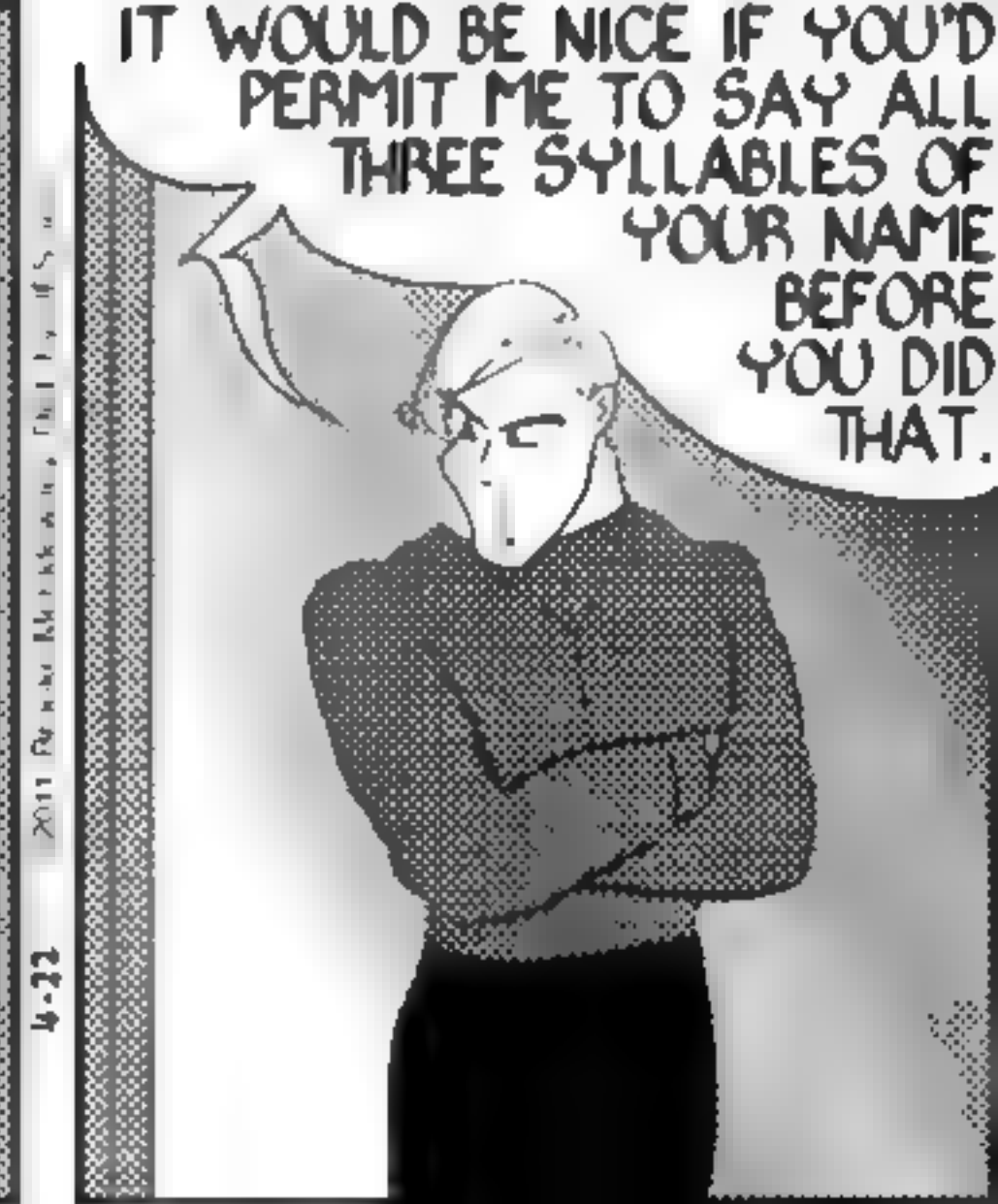
FERNANDA, I'M SORRY I SNUBBED
YOU OUT IN THE STREET.
BUT I AM
WILLING
TO PUT
IT BEHIND
US.

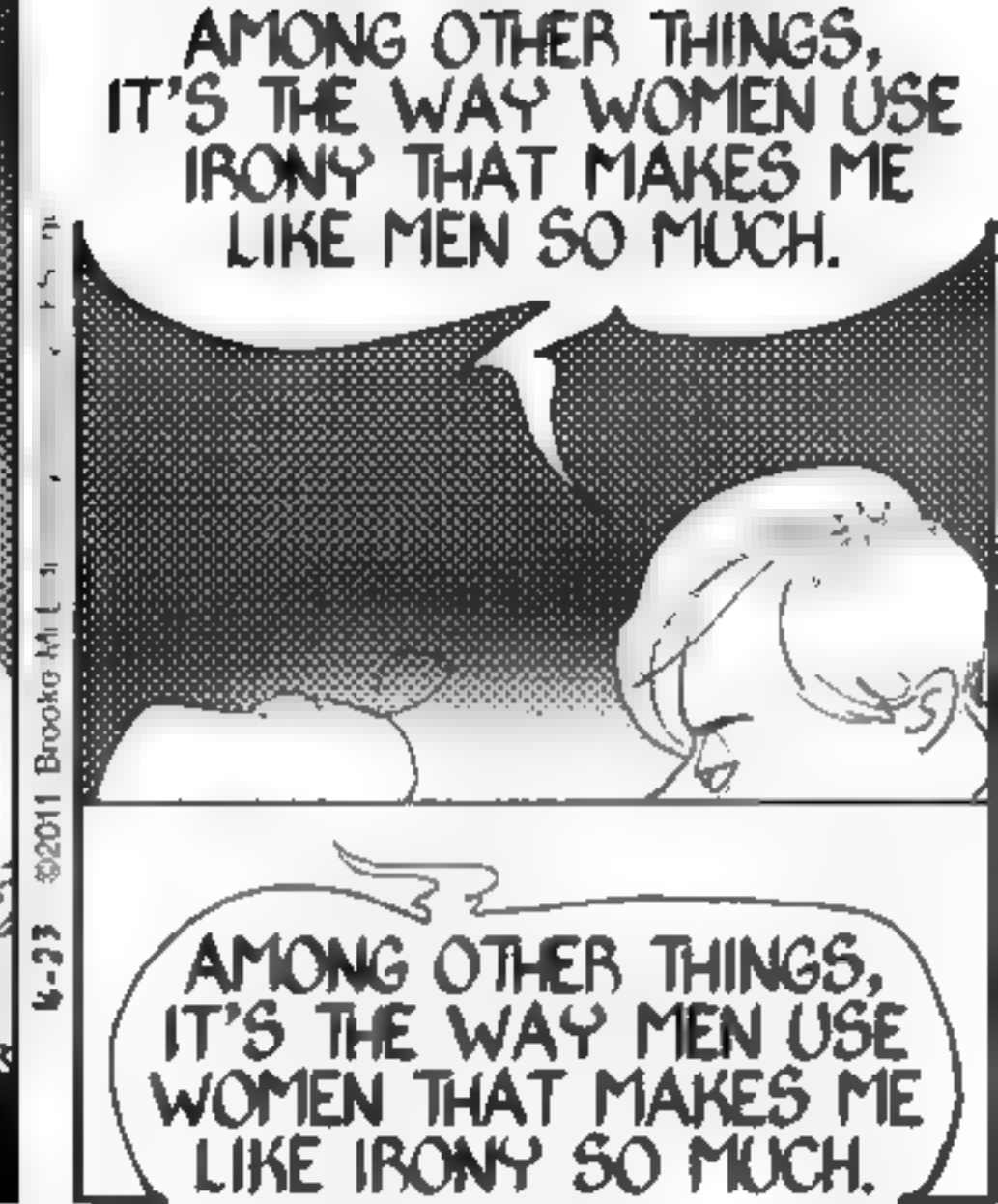
OH, HOW
GENEROUS.

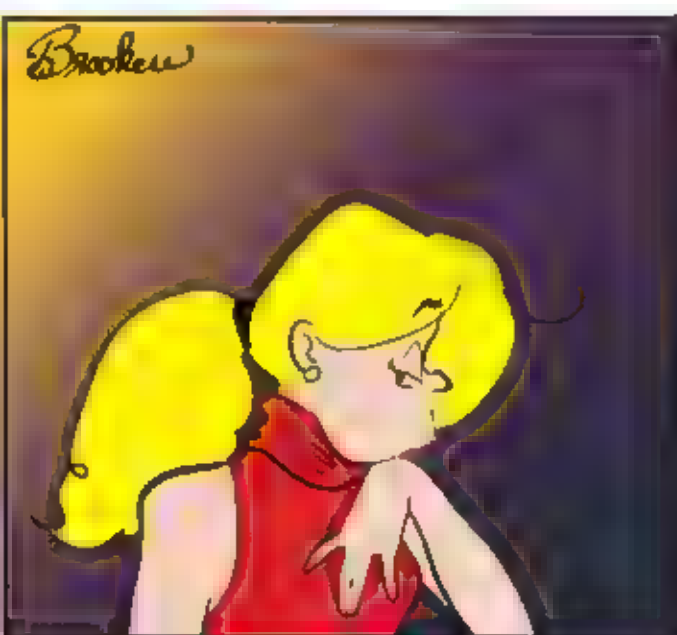
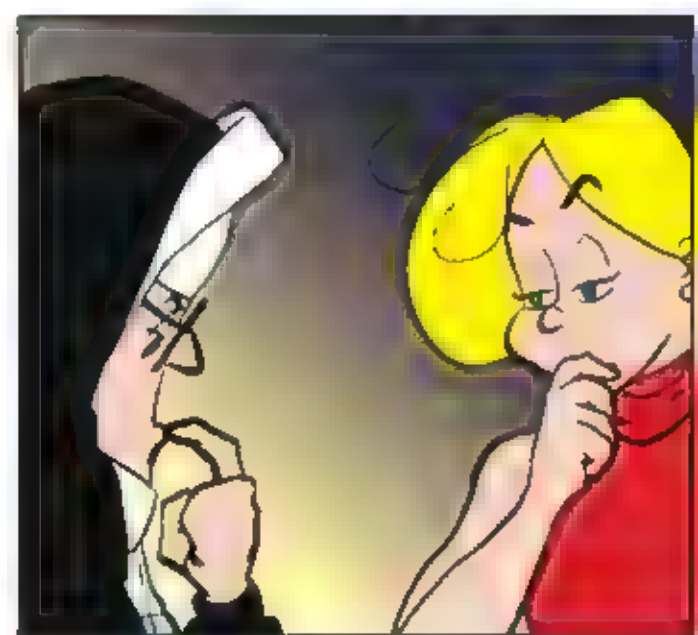
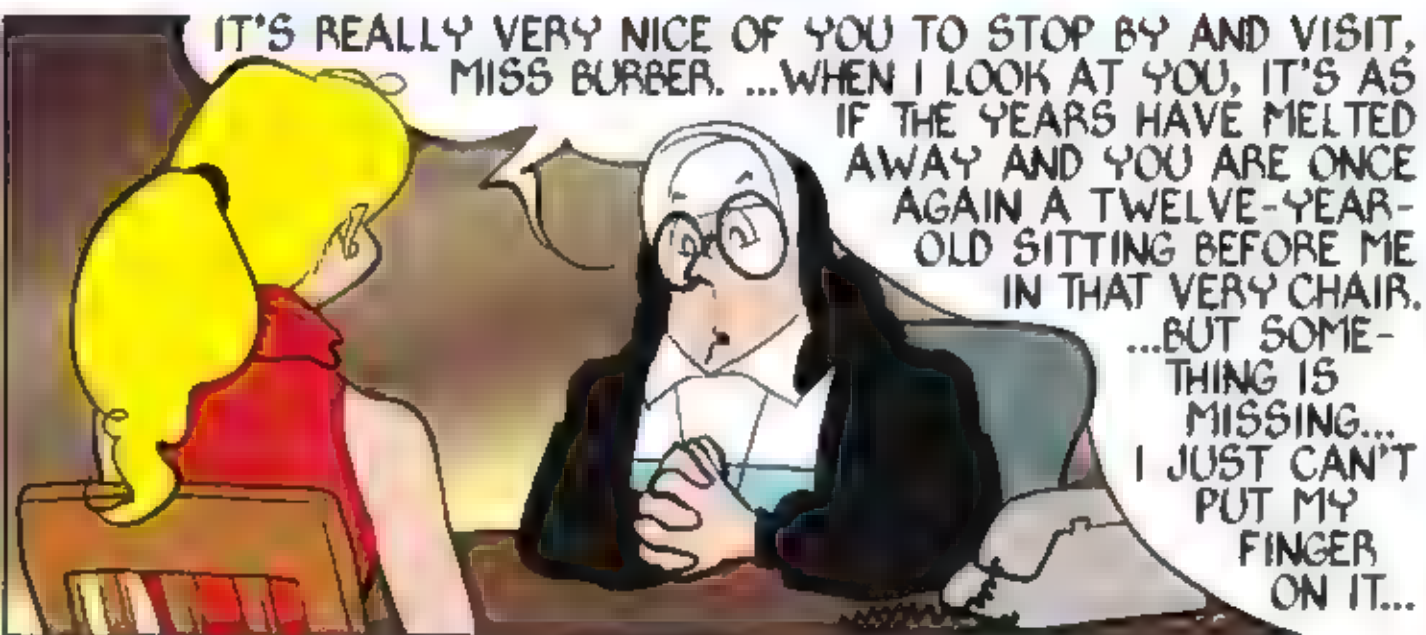
Brooke



BEARING IN MIND THAT YOUR
NATIVE TONGUE
IS NOT
ENGLISH,
I SHOULD
POINT
OUT
THAT
YOUR
REMARK
COULD
BE
MISTAKEN
FOR
SARCASM.







I HAVE BEEN DETACHED AS
SETH'S EMISSARY
BECAUSE YOU
PERSIST IN
SLAMMING
THE DOOR
IN HIS
FACE.

I
SEE.

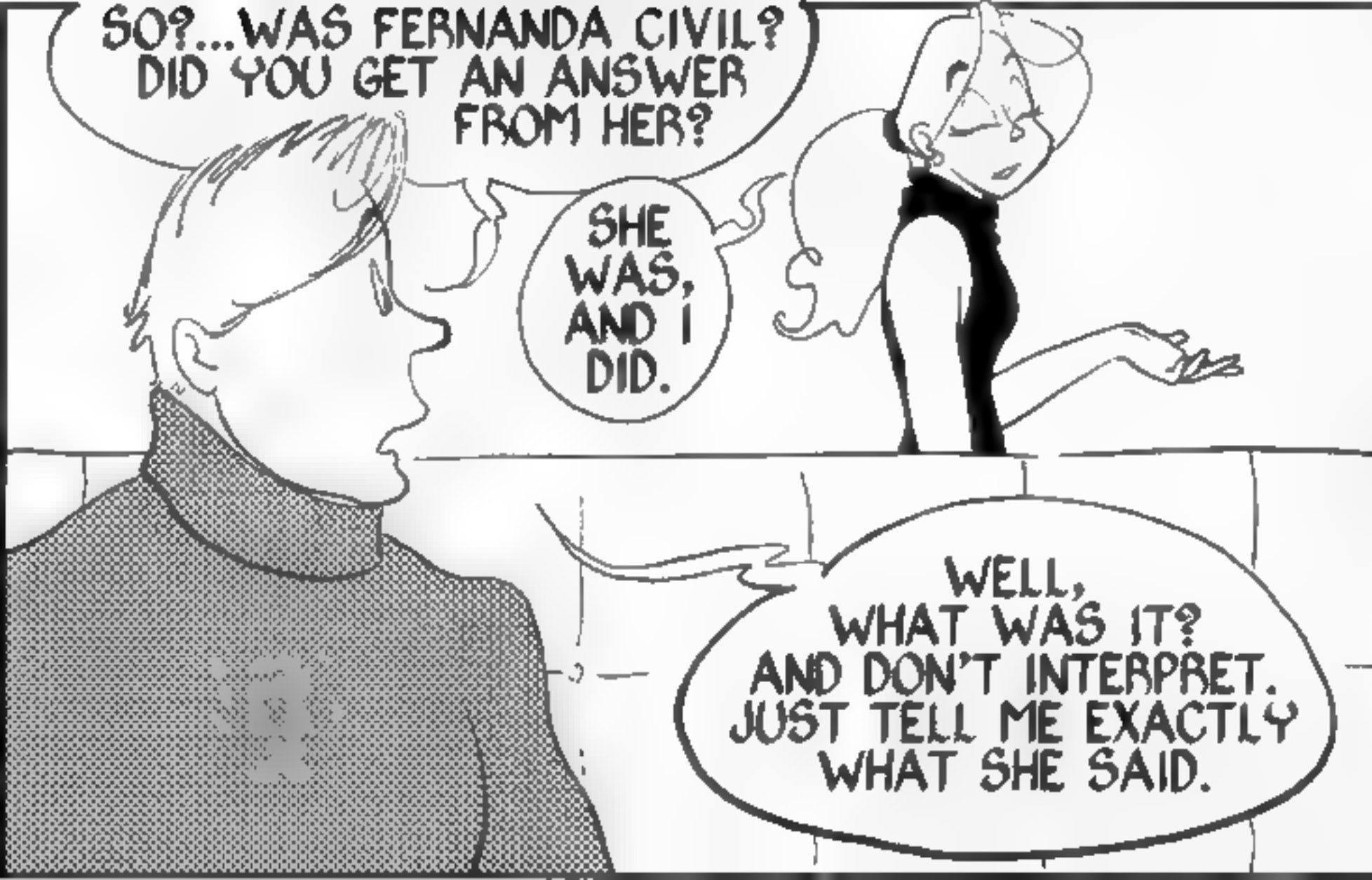
SETH WISHES ME TO SAY
THAT HE WOULD BE PLEASED
TO SPEAK TO YOU AS, AND
I QUOTE, "ONE ADULT
TO ANOTHER, SHOULD
THAT BE WITHIN
YOUR GRASP."

MAY
I RELAY
YOUR
RESPONSE?

Brackew

slam.

VERY WELL...AND HOW
MANY EXCLAMATION MARKS
WOULD YOU LIKE ON THAT?







WELL, IF YOU WANT TO BEG
OFF AND WHINE FOR ANOTHER
DANCE
PARTNER,
BE MY
GUEST,
PRINCESS.

YEAH? WELL, GOOD LUCK
KEEPING UP WITH ME, DIVA.

I'M A PROFESSIONAL.
I CAN PARTNER WITH
ANYBODY, OR, IN YOUR
CASE, ANYTHING.

YOU
WON'T
SEE MY
DANCING
FOR THE
DUST,
BOZO.

STILL, I CALL THAT AN IMPROVEMENT
OVER WHEN SHE CALLED HIM
"SUGARPLUM FAIRY" AND
HE CALLED HER "COW."

Brooke

SETH, FERNANDA, WE'VE HAD A SHORT
BALLET CHOREOGRAPHED. IT'S A
PASSIONATE PAS DE DEUX,
AND I WANT
YOU
TWO TO
PREMIERE
IT. IT'LL
MEAN
A SHORT
REHEARSAL
SCHEDULE,
SO YOU'RE
GOING TO
HAVE TO
HIT THE
GROUND
RUNNING.

WHATEVER
YOU SAY,
BOSS.

IF HE CAN
DO IT, I CAN
DO IT.

I THINK YOU'LL LOVE IT.
IT'S TAILOR-MADE FOR YOU
TWO...A KIND OF TANGO.

oh, lord...

9 CHICKWEED LANE



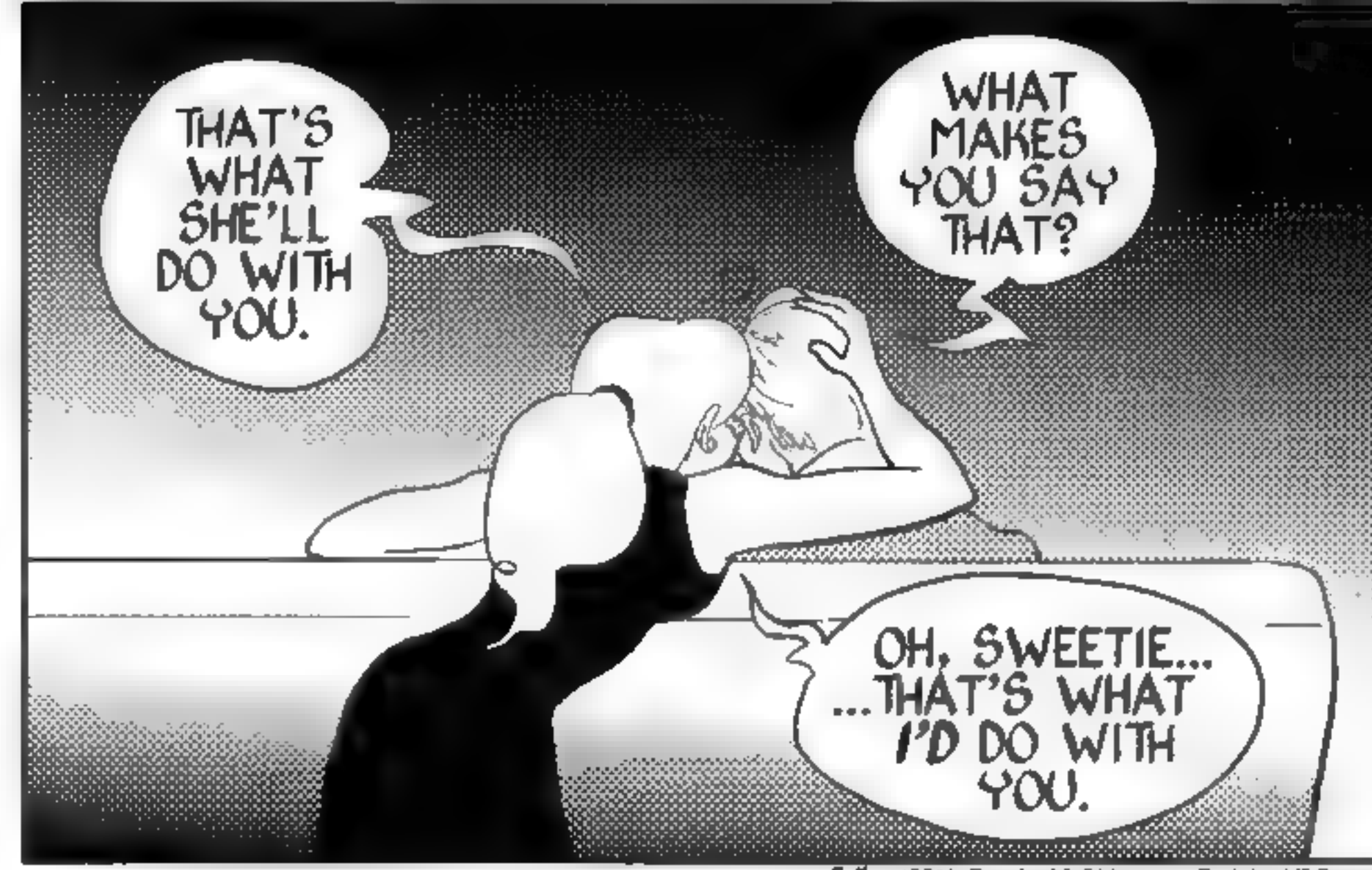
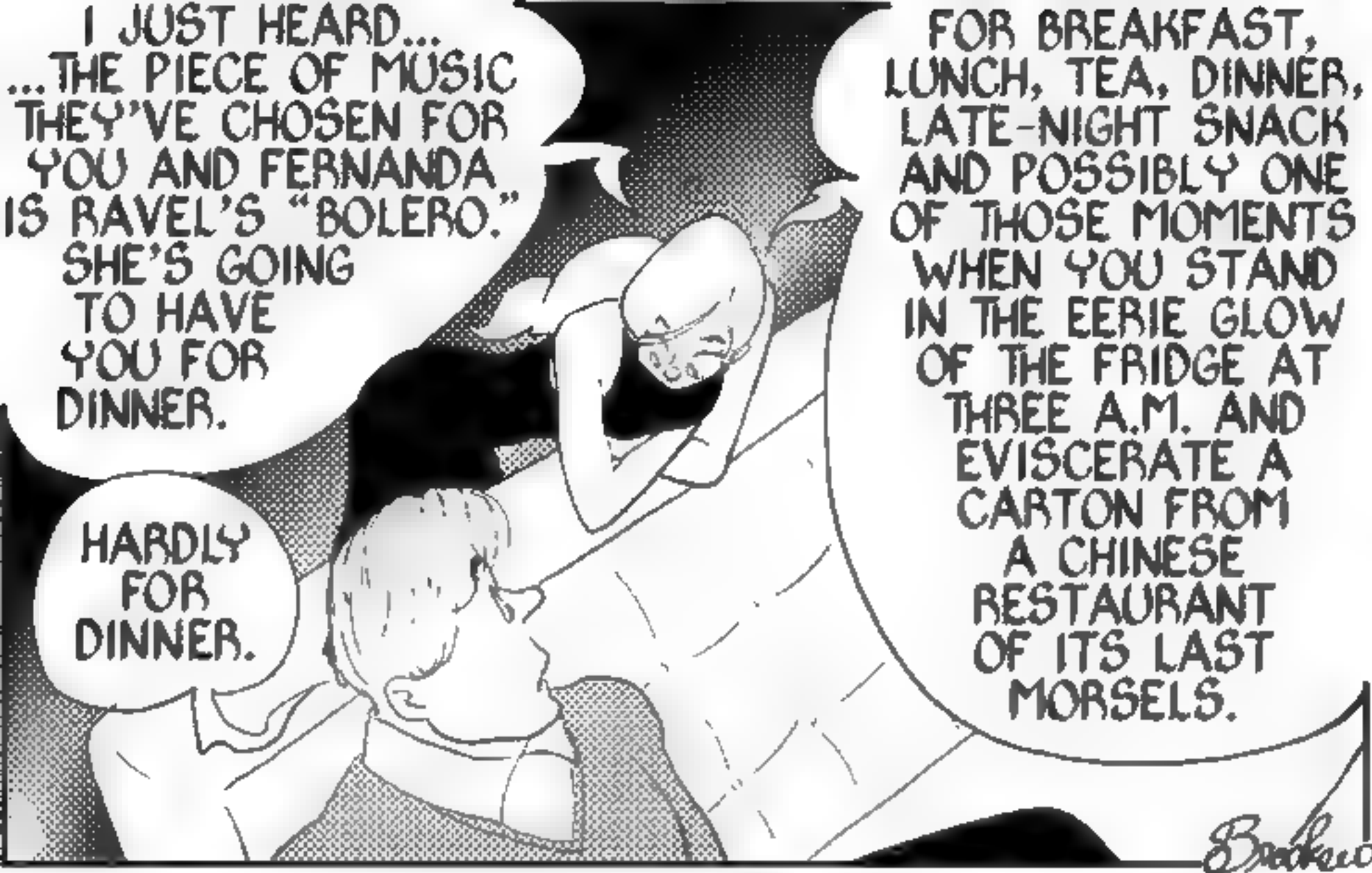


AS A GAY MAN, I FIND IT MORE
THAN UNNERVING TO FALL
IN LOVE AND
DISCOVER THAT
THE OBJECT OF
MY DESIRE
IS A GIRL.

I CAN
SYMPA-
THIZE.
I WENT
THROUGH
THE SAME
THING
WHEN I
WAS A
NUN.

WITH ALL
DUE RESPECT,
DIANE, WHEN
YOU FELL
IN LOVE,
AT LEAST
IT WAS
WITH ONE
OF YOUR
OWN.

AH...YES.
WITH A PRIEST.
THE SISTER
SUPERIOR
WAS SO
RELIEVED.





THE WHOLE THING
ABOUT A BOLERO
IS THAT IT HAS
THREE BEATS TO
THE BAR. A TANGO
HAS TWO BEATS.
SO THAT'S ALL
DIFFERENT,
IN A VERY
SIGNIFICANT
WAY.



YES...FERNANDA
WILL HAVE IN EVERY
MEASURE AN EXTRA
TABOO BEAT
WITH WHICH TO
DRIVE YOU INSANE
WITH
BESTIAL
RAVENING
DESIRE.

Brake

FOR A FORMER NUN,
YOU GAVE THIS WHOLE
METRICAL/MADNESS ISSUE
A LOT OF VERY THOROUGH
THOUGHT.



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IT'S
SOMETHING
I'D DO WHILE
IRONING MY
WIMPLE.



I THINK I'VE BEEN OBSESSING ABOUT THIS WHOLE BOLERO PERFORMANCE TOO MUCH. IT'S JUST A DANCE. FERNANDA AND I ARE DANCERS. ...SHE PROBABLY HASN'T GIVEN IT A SECOND THOUGHT.



<http://chickweedcafe.blogspot.com>

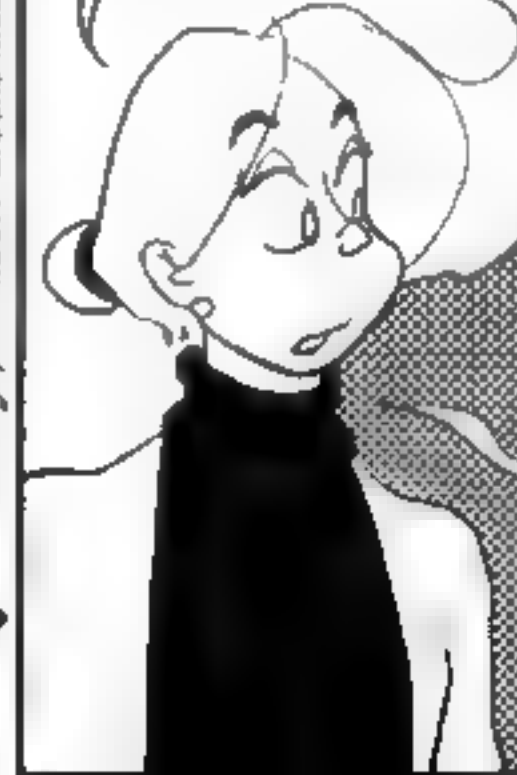
Brooke



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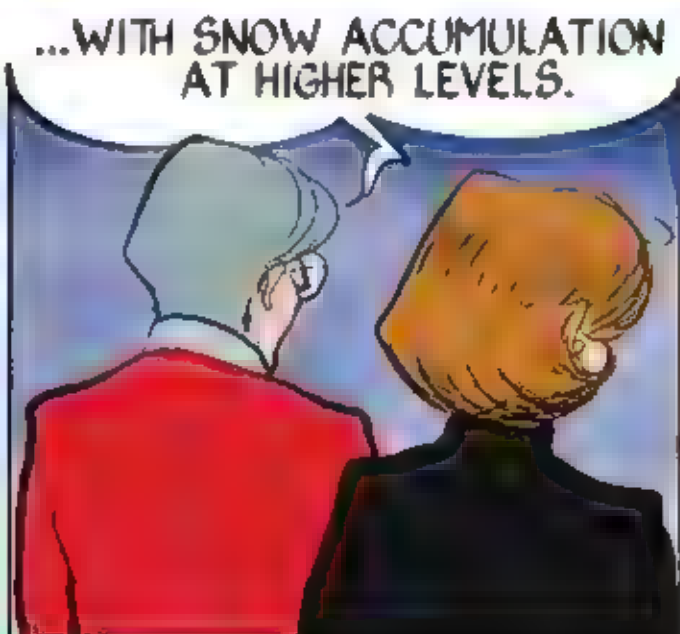
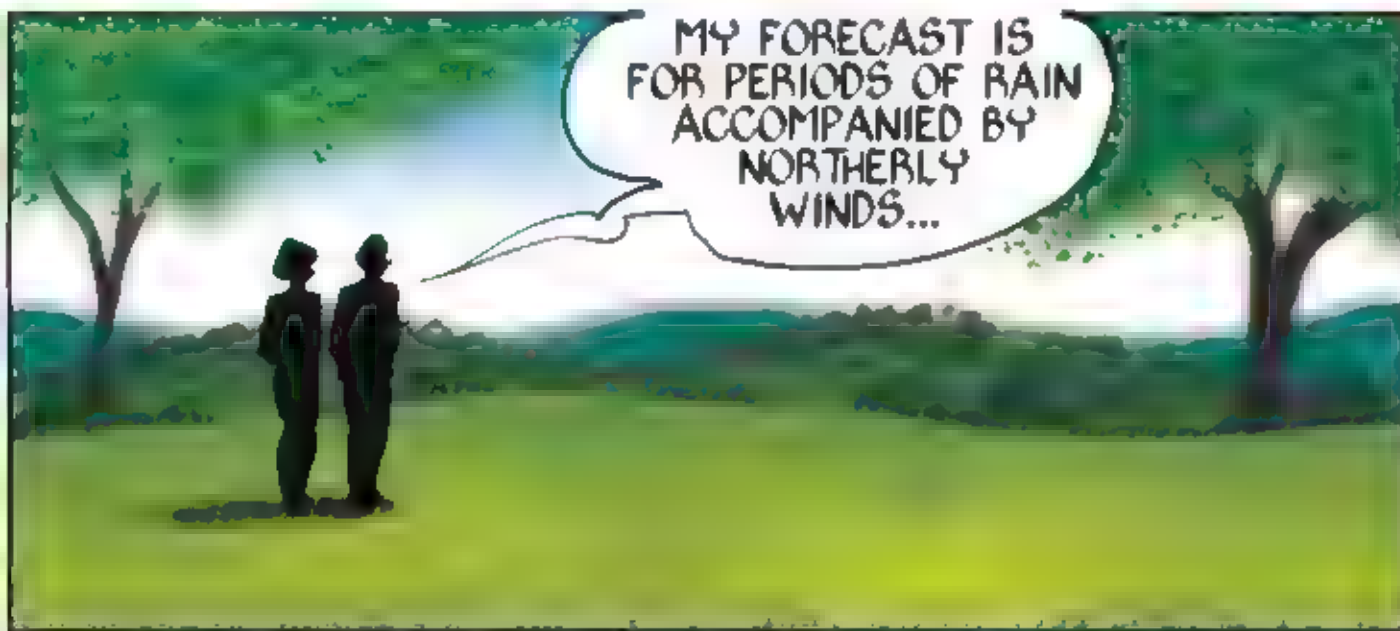
DO YOU HAVE AN ORGAN DONOR CARD?

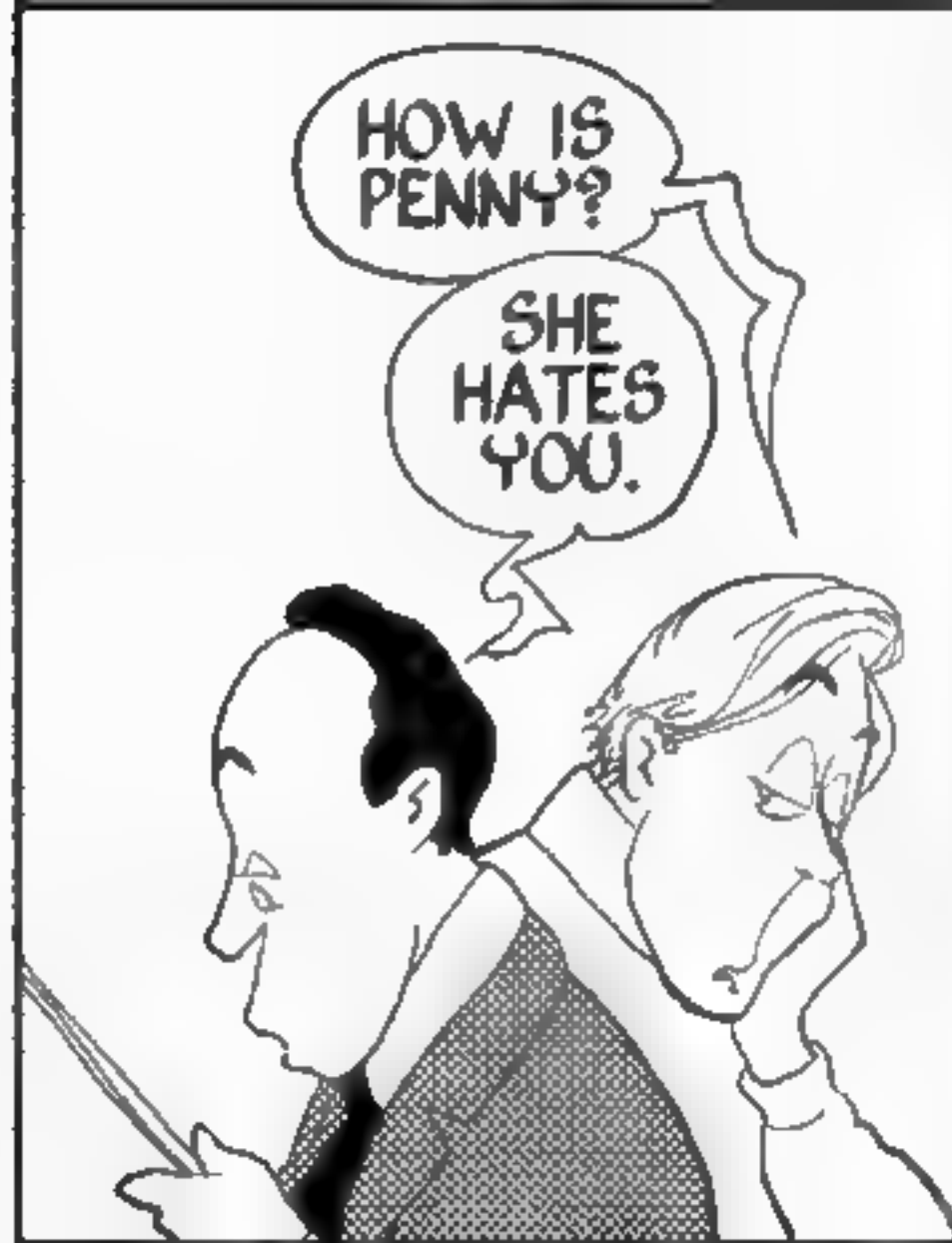
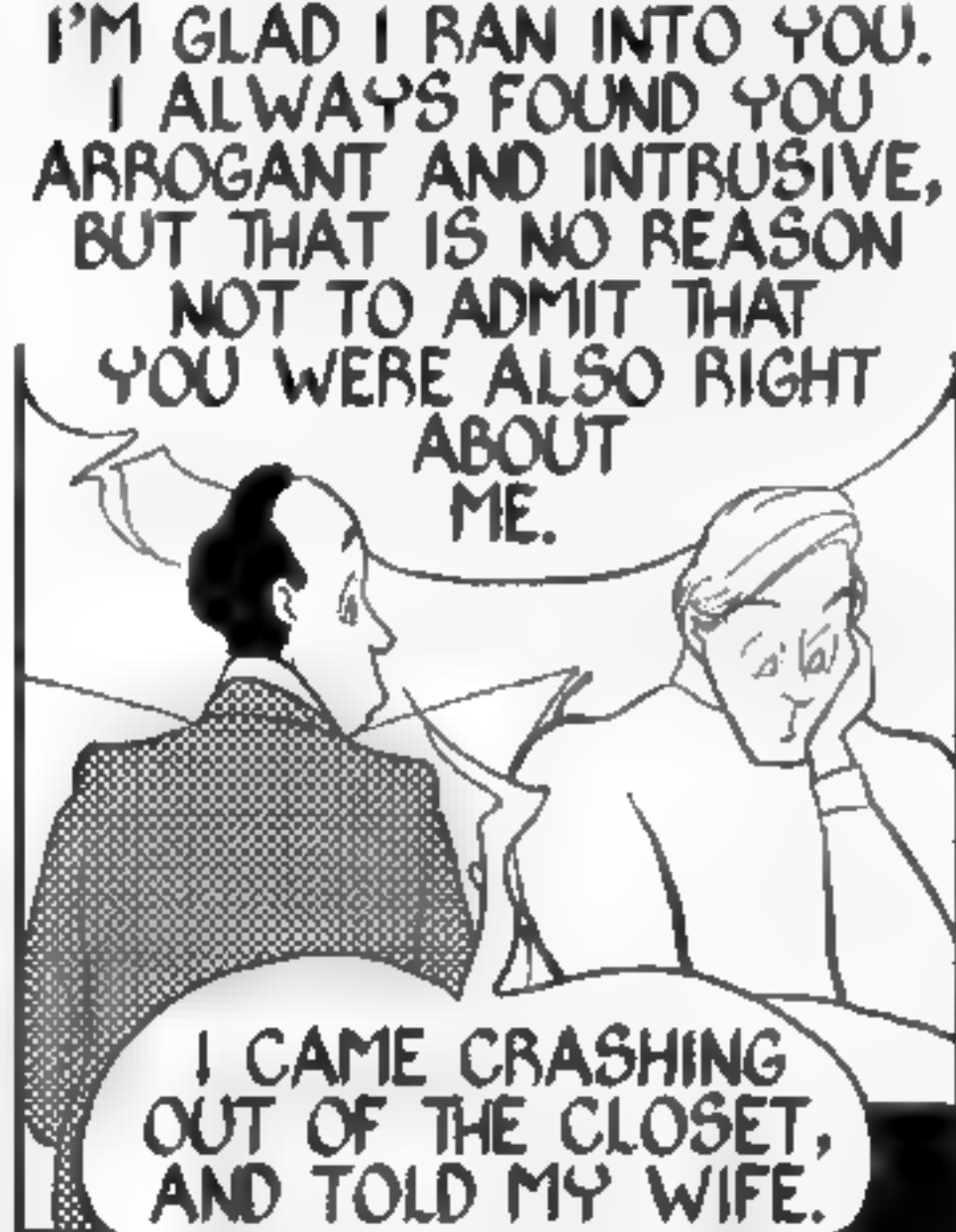
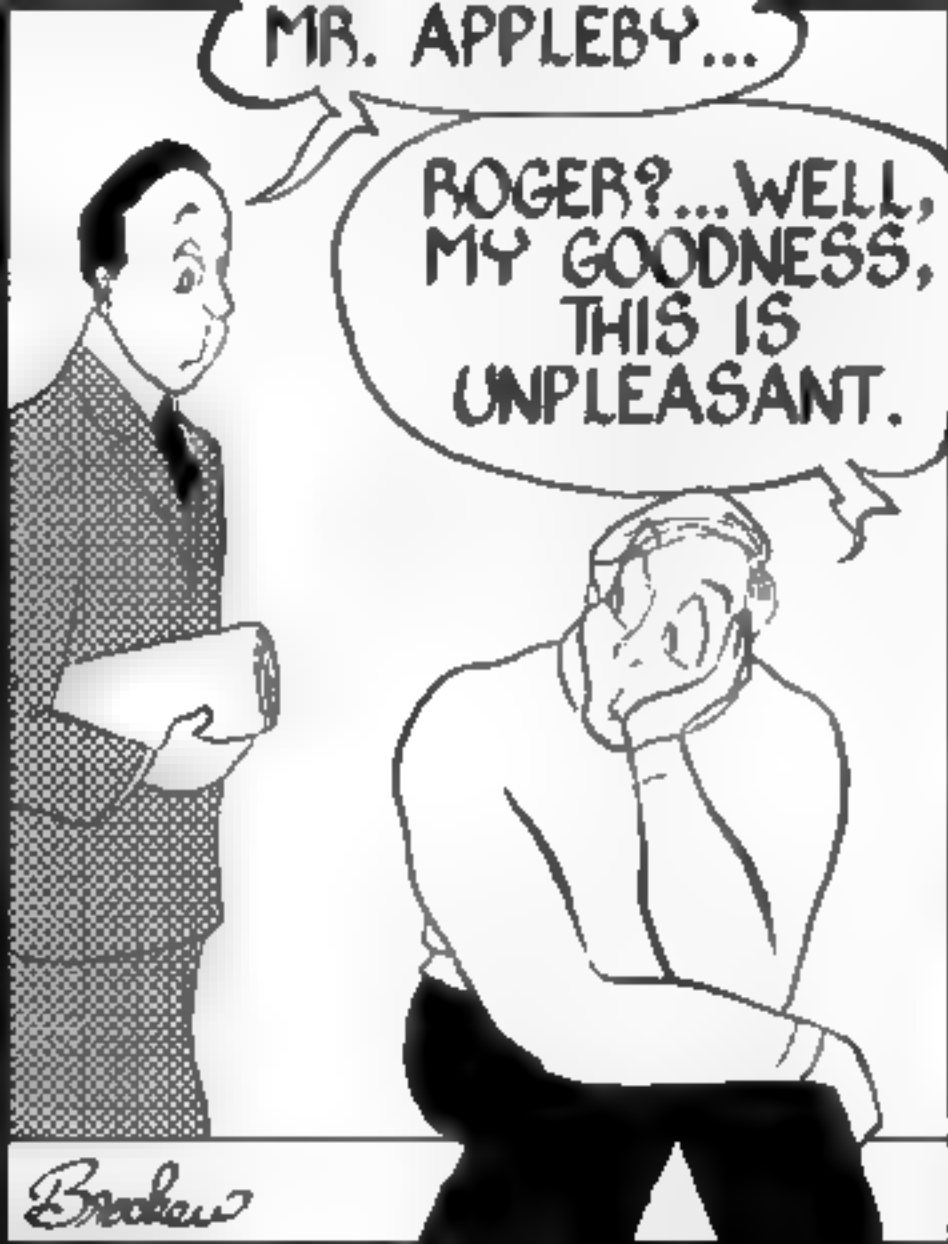
THAT'S IN CASE OF A FATAL COLLISION.



AND THIS WON'T BE?

9 CHICKWEED LANE





I TALKED TO MY SISTER ABOUT IT, FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE. IT SEEMS EVERYBODY, INCLUDING THE DOG NEXT DOOR, KNEW I WAS GAY. YOU WERE JUST THE FIRST TO MENTION IT TO ME.

OH, UH, WELL, PERHAPS I...

...TORE MY LIFE TO SHREDS? I SUPPOSE. BUT ADMITTING IT TO MYSELF WAS MY CHOICE, SO I CAN'T REALLY BLAME YOU. ...THE MAIN THING IS, YOU WERE RIGHT. I HAD TO OWN UP TO WHO I AM.

NICE TO SEE YOU.

NICE OF YOU TO STOP BY.

...AND HURL MY WORDS IN MY FACE.

Brooke

(I SAW YOUR UNCLE ROGER TODAY.)

REALLY?
HOW IS
HE?

OPENLY GAY.
AND HE SAYS IT'S
ALL MY DOING.
I FORGOT THAT
HONESTY IS A RATHER
PAINFUL ACTIVITY.
UP FRONT IT SEEMS
SO SIMPLE.
...BUT AFTERWARDS
THERE ARE ALL
THOSE MESSY
CONSEQUENCES.

I'M
A REAL
JERK.

HEY...I'M
PRESIDENT
OF THE
CLUB.

AND I'LL LET
YOU IN FOR A
VERY REDUCED
MEMBERSHIP FEE.

CAN YOU
DO THAT?

I'M
PRESIDENT.
CORRUPTION
IS A PERK.

16b

BEHOLD! I PROSTRATE
MYSELF BEFORE
YOU...

SH!

Did he
go?

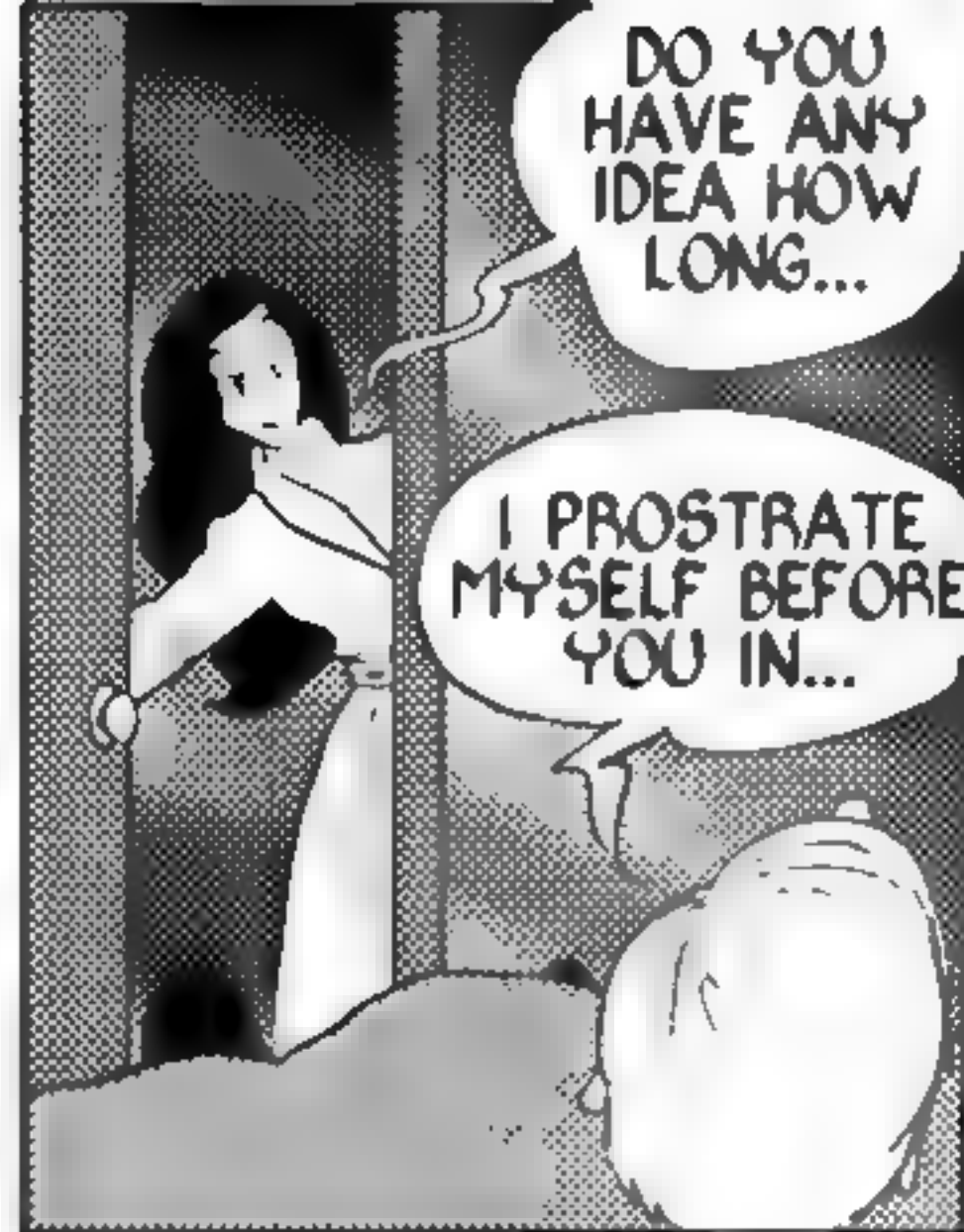
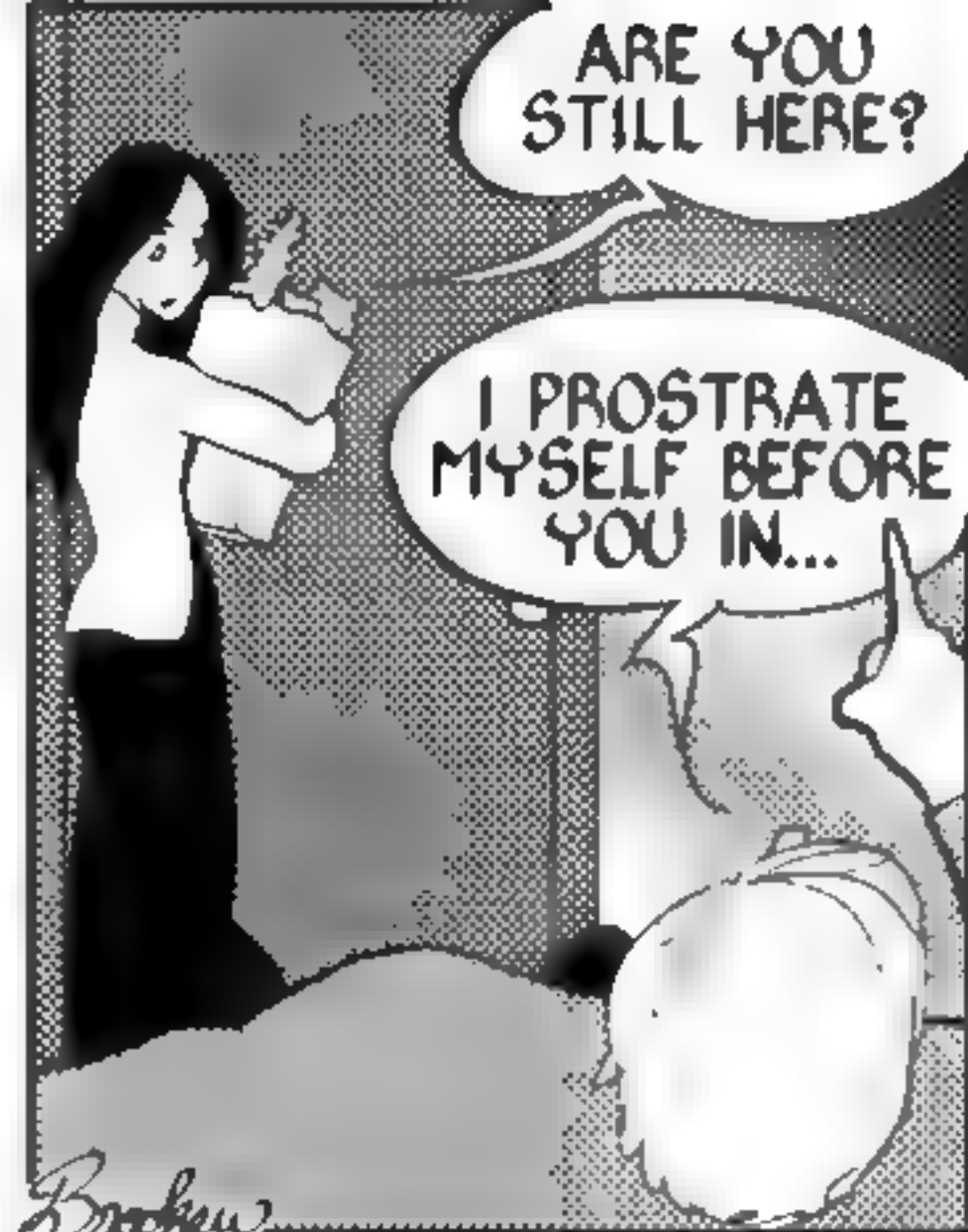
YOU'RE BLOCKING
THE HALL.

JUST
BETWEEN
US, I THINK
YOU SHOULD
LOOK LESS
PLEASED.

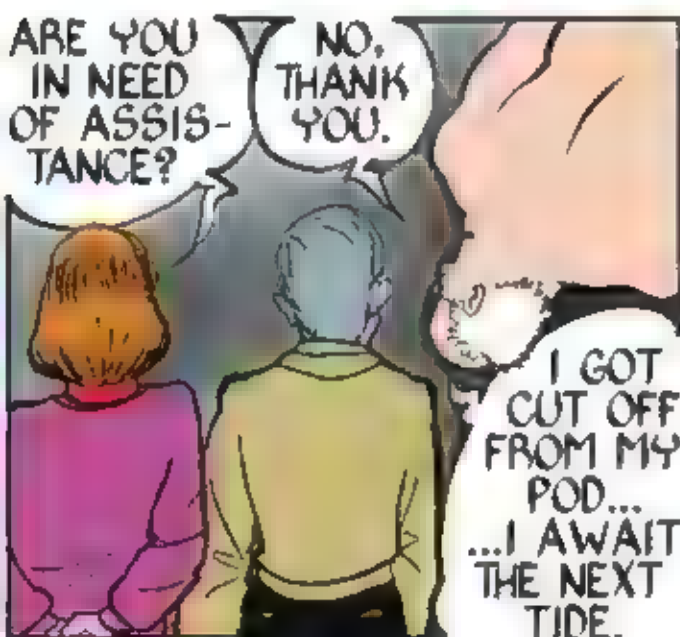
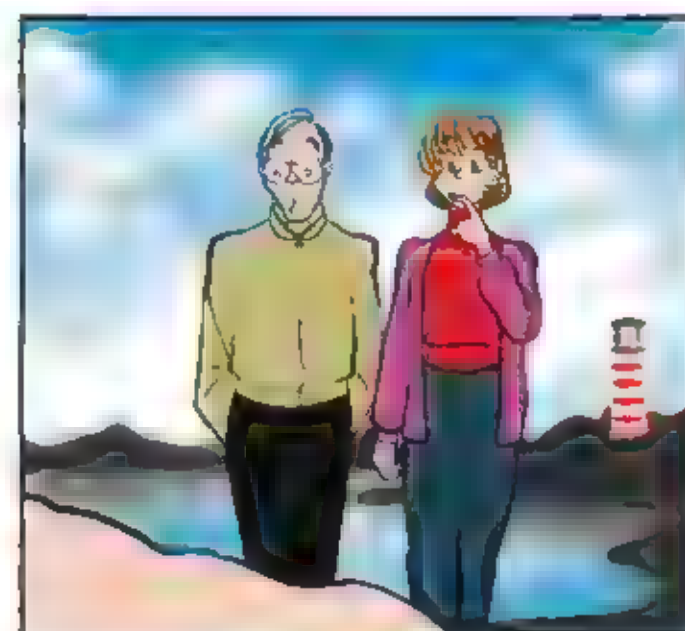
5-12

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Frankie



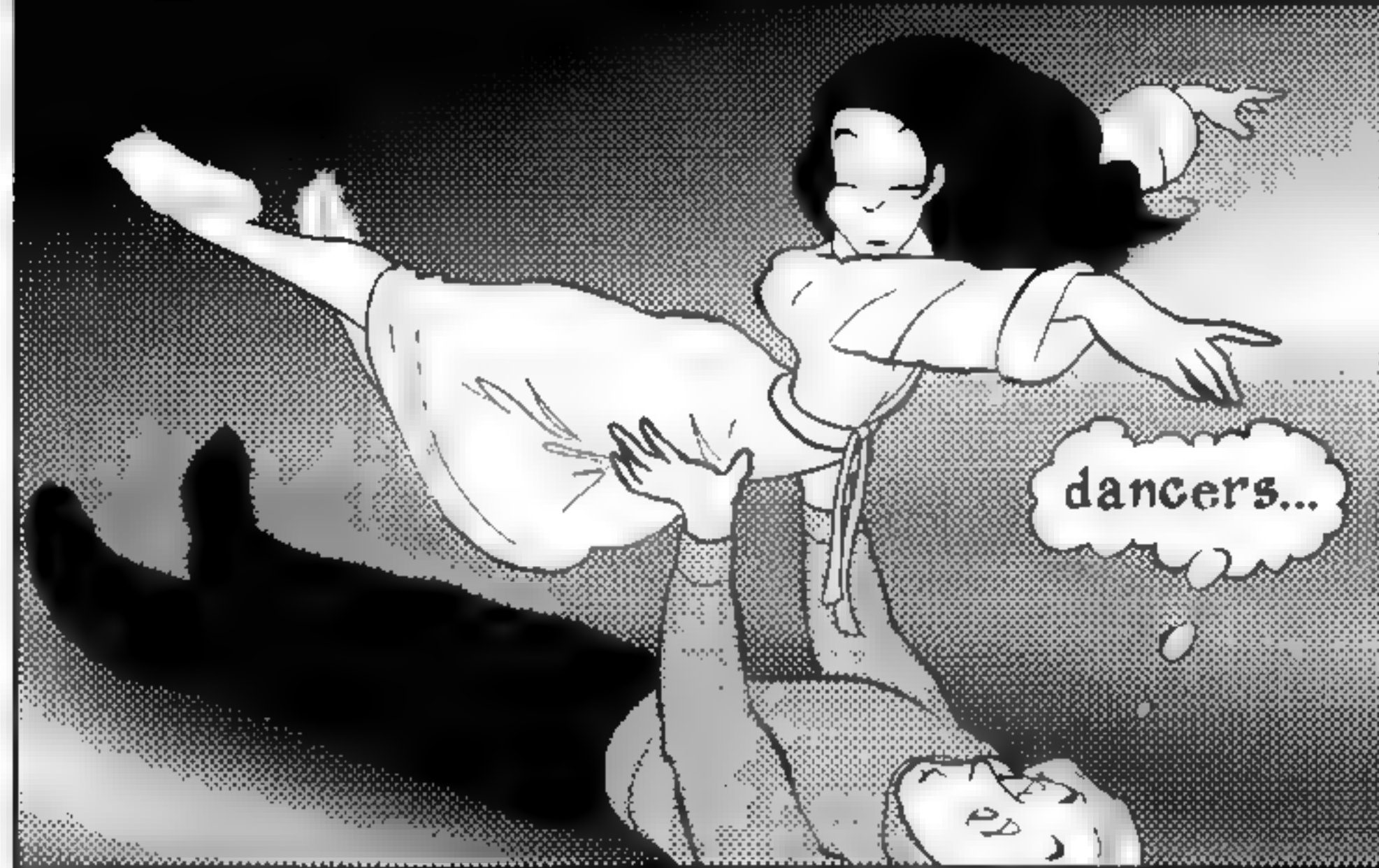








FERNANDA,
IF YOU WON'T LISTEN
TO REASON, I'M JUST GOING
TO LIFT YOU OFF OF ME.
I'M SORRY, BUT IT
MUST BE DONE.





WHAT'S SO WRONG
WITH A LONGING,
OBSESSED, NON-
ORIENTATIONAL
LOVE?

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND...
...IT'S THE UNRESTRAINABLE DESIRE
YOU KINDLE...THE KIND OF LOVE
THAT MAKES ME WANT TO DASH
RIGHT HOME AND
WRITE SONNETS
...COMPOSE
SYMPHONIES.



Brooke

OKAY, SETH...
...NOW THAT'S
JUST
WARPED!

BUT
I FEEL
BETTER
ADMITTING
IT.



STILL, IF YOU WANT TO
WRITE SONNETS TO ME,
IT'S A BEGINNING. I LIKE
A CHALLENGE.

LISTEN,
FERNANDA.

WAXING
SEDUC-
TIVE
WON'T
WORK.

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BUT...

HEED MY WORDS,
READ MY LIPS,
IF IT HELPS.
...WE NEED TO
DISCUSS
THINGS.
...THIS
ISN'T
GOING
TO
WORK.

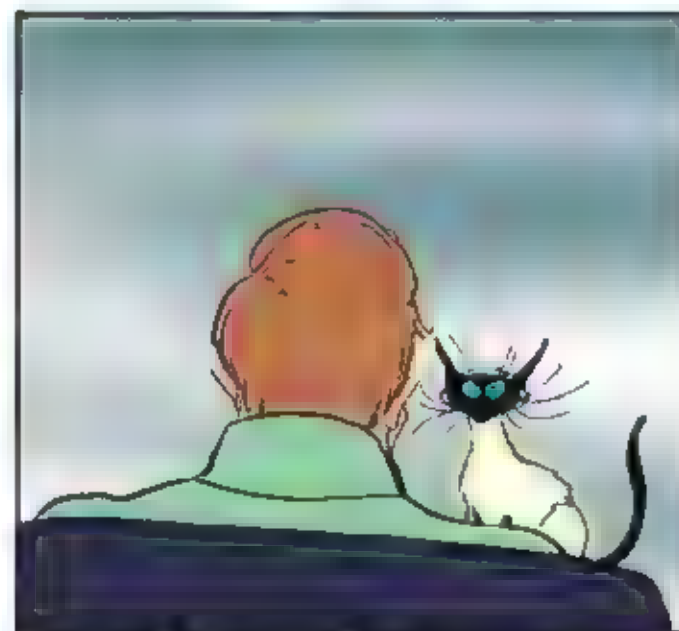
Brooke

OH,
OKAY THEN.
LET'S
TALK.

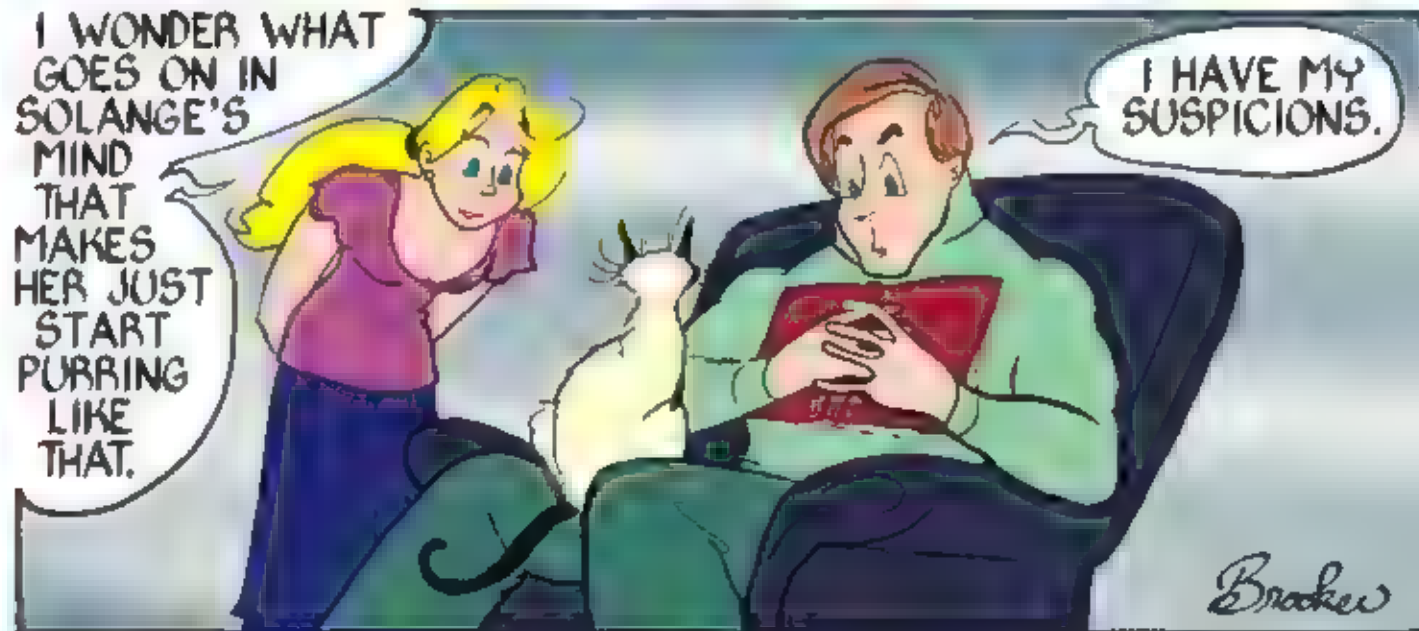
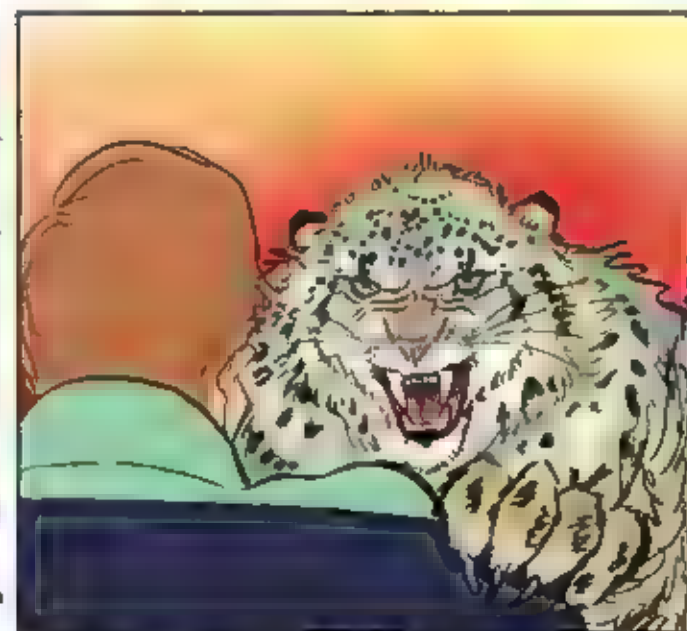
oh, lord,
it nearly
worked.



<http://chickweedlane.blogspot.com>



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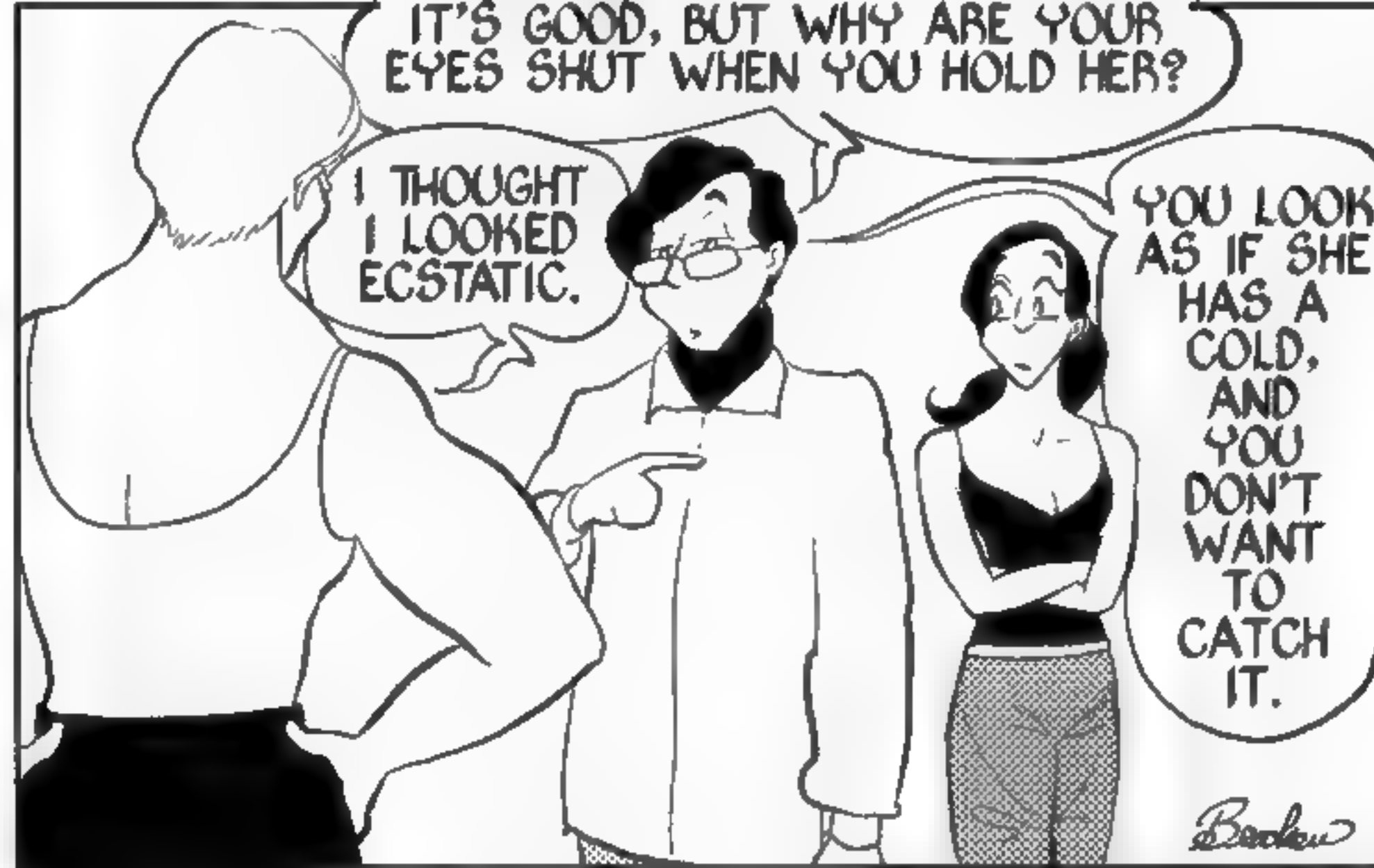


HERE'S WHAT I HAVE
IN MIND: YOU ARE TWO
PEOPLE WHO HAVE
KNOWN PASSION
TOGETHER, HAVE
PARTED, AND THEN
MEET AGAIN
BY CHANCE...
...AND ALMOST
AGAINST YOUR WILL,
YOU RETURN TO
EACH OTHER'S
ARMS.

IT'S VERY
SIMPLE...YOU BOTH
RESIST AND RESIST,
BUT AS THE BOLERO
GROWS, YOU ARE
DRAWN
IRRESISTIBLY
TOGETHER IN A
SULTRY
PAS DE DEUX.

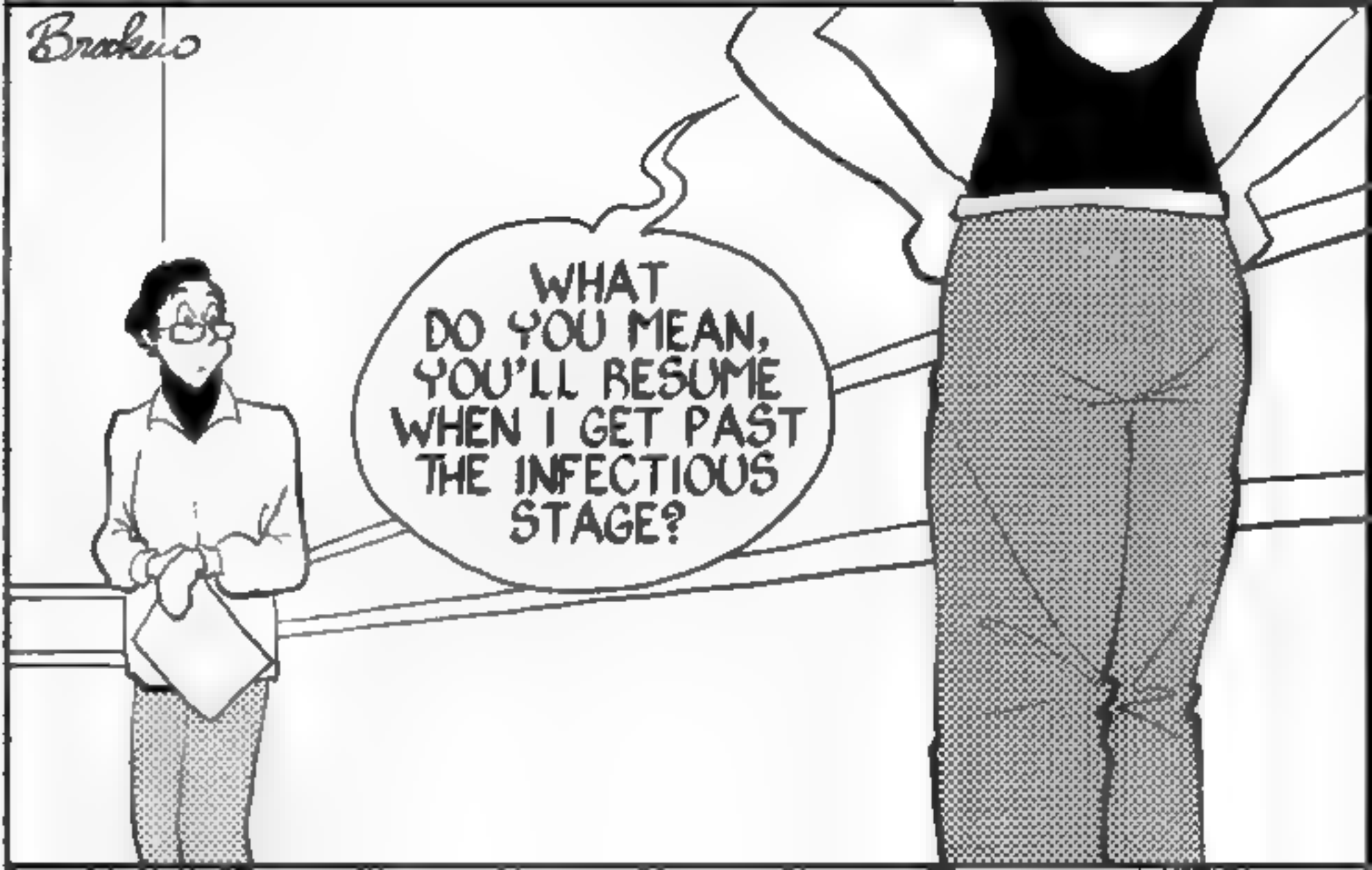
Brake

OKAY,
NOW THE FIRST,
ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL
STEP TOWARD A SULTRY
PAS DE DEUX IS TO GET
WITHIN 50 FEET
OF EACH OTHER.





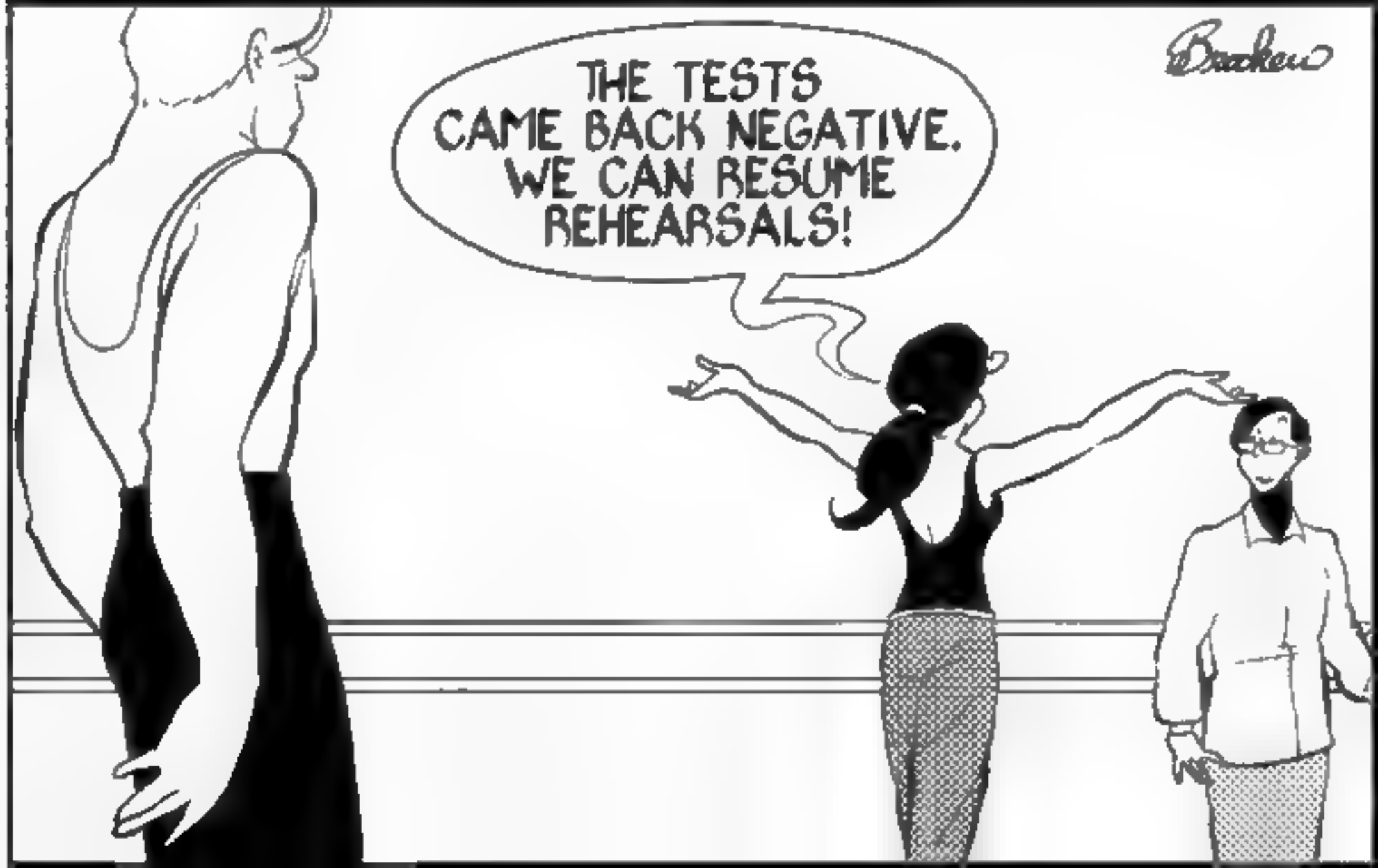
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Broken



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Brooke

I'M JUST THINKING MAYBE
FERNANDA AND I SHOULDN'T
BE WORKING IN
SUCH CLOSE
PROXIMITY.

MAYBE
YOU'RE
RIGHT.



OR, AS SURPRISED AS I AM
TO HEAR MYSELF SAYING
IT, MAYBE THIS IS A VERY
IMPORTANT PROFESSIONAL
STEP FOR HER, AND YOU
WANT TO THROW IT ALL
AWAY BECAUSE YOU WON'T
MAN UP AND
DO YOUR
JOB.



YOU'VE BEEN
REMARKABLY
TACITURN.
HAVE YOU
NOTHING TO
CONTRIBUTE?



WHAT'S A
FOUR-LETTER WORD
FOR AN ICE CREAM
SODA CONCOCTER?



JERK.

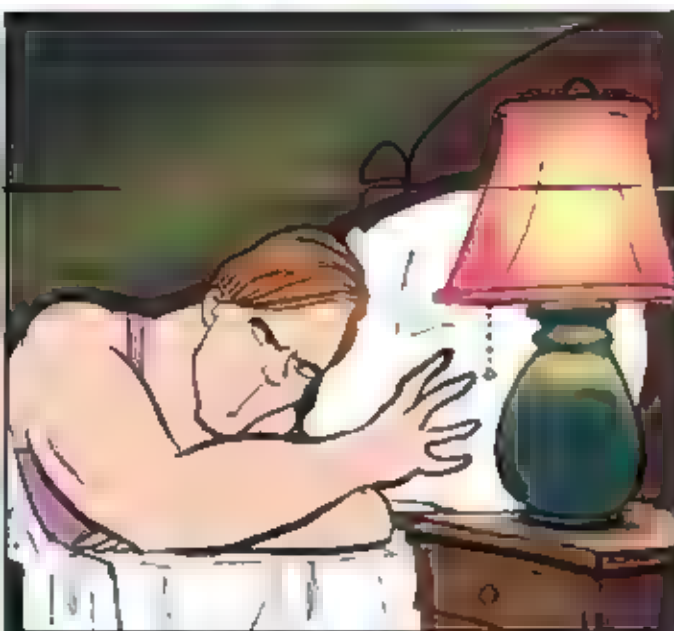
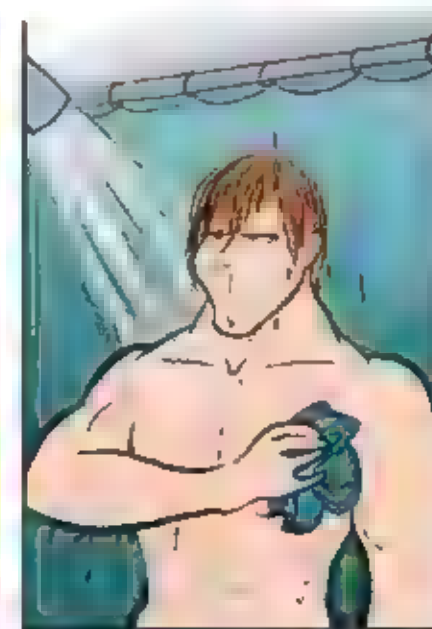
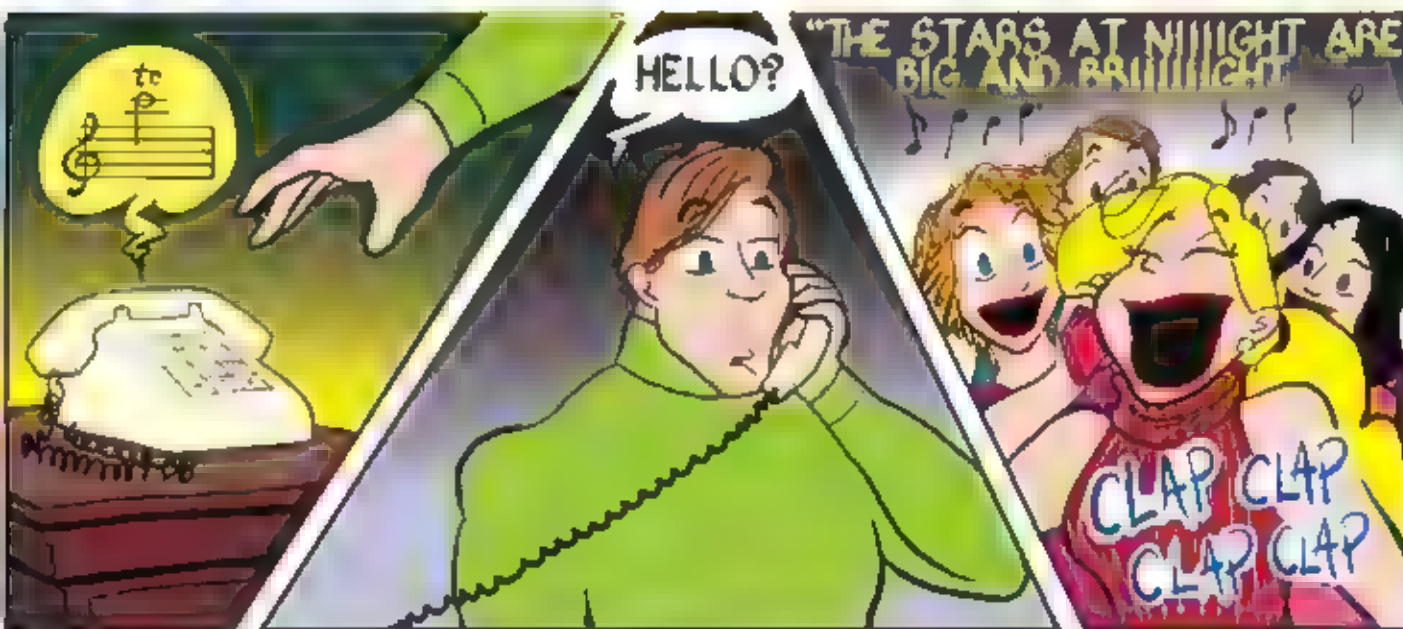
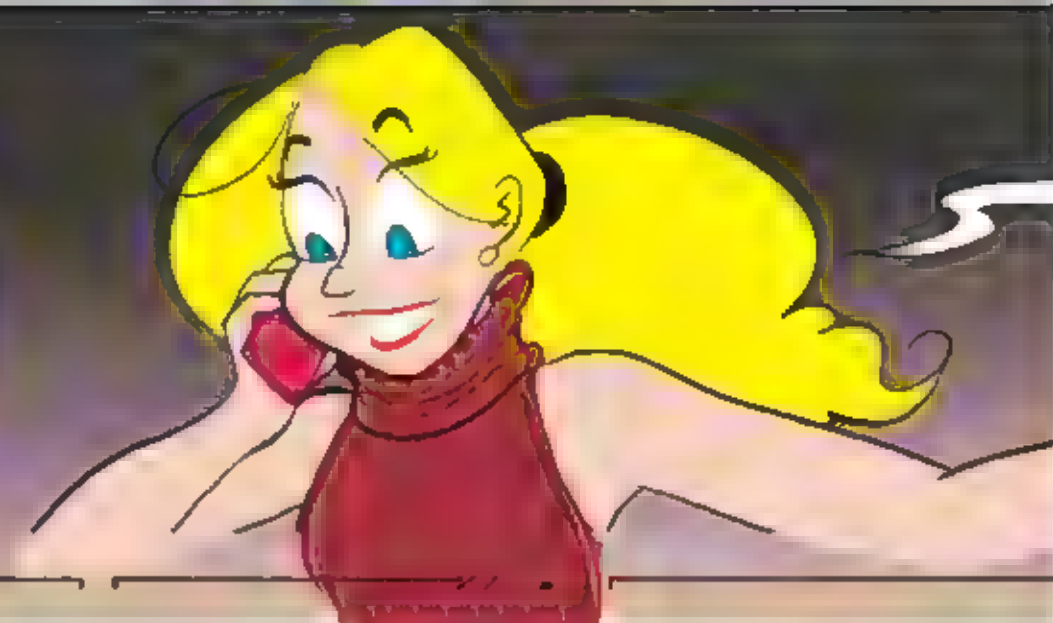
WELL, YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE
LEFT WHO HASN'T WEIGHED IN
ON HOW I'VE BEEN TREATING
FERNANDA...DON'T YOU HAVE
AN OPINION OF
ME TOO?



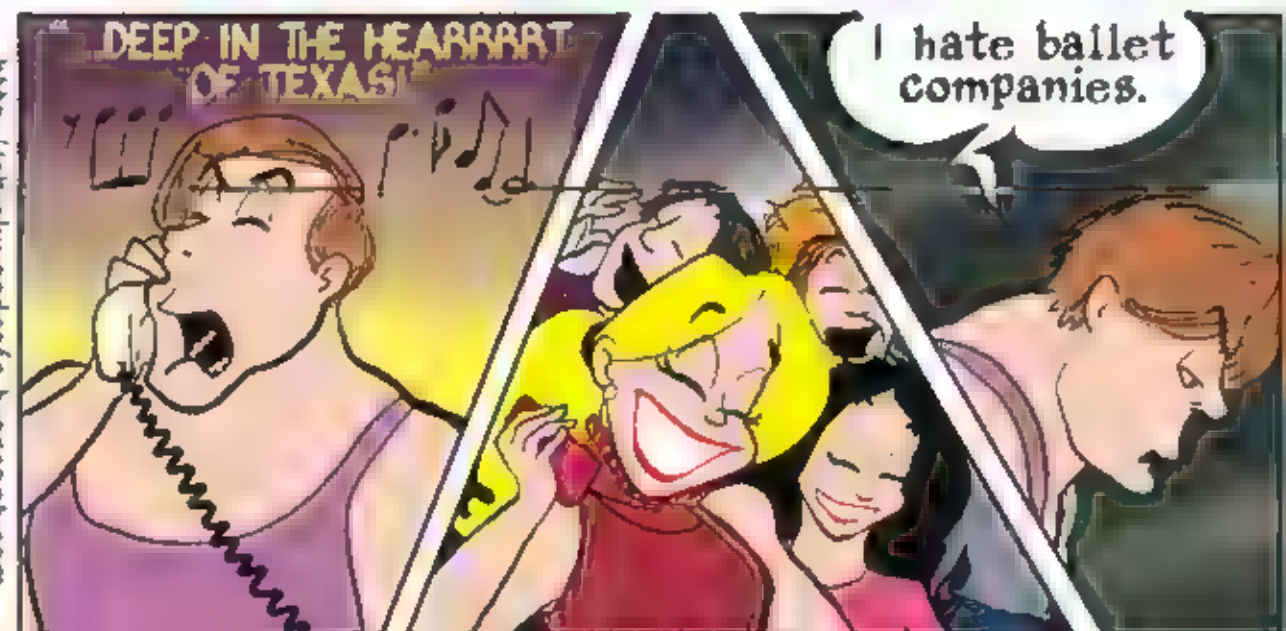
Brooke




9 CHICKWEED LANE



<http://chickweedcafe.blogspot.com>



RELIABLE INFORMANTS TELL
ME I'VE BEEN A
JERK AGAIN. EVEN
THE CAT THINKS
I'VE BEEN A JERK.
PEOPLE
SET
THEIR
CLOCKS
BY THE
REGU-
LARITY
WITH
WHICH
I'VE
BEEN
A JERK.



I KNEEL BEFORE YOU
TO VOW THAT
FROM NOW ON
I SHALL BE
FAITHFUL TO YOU
AS A PARTNER
AND FRIEND.
ON
THIS
YOU
HAVE
MY
WORD.



THANK YOU.
...ONLY ONE
THING I
WOULD
ASK...

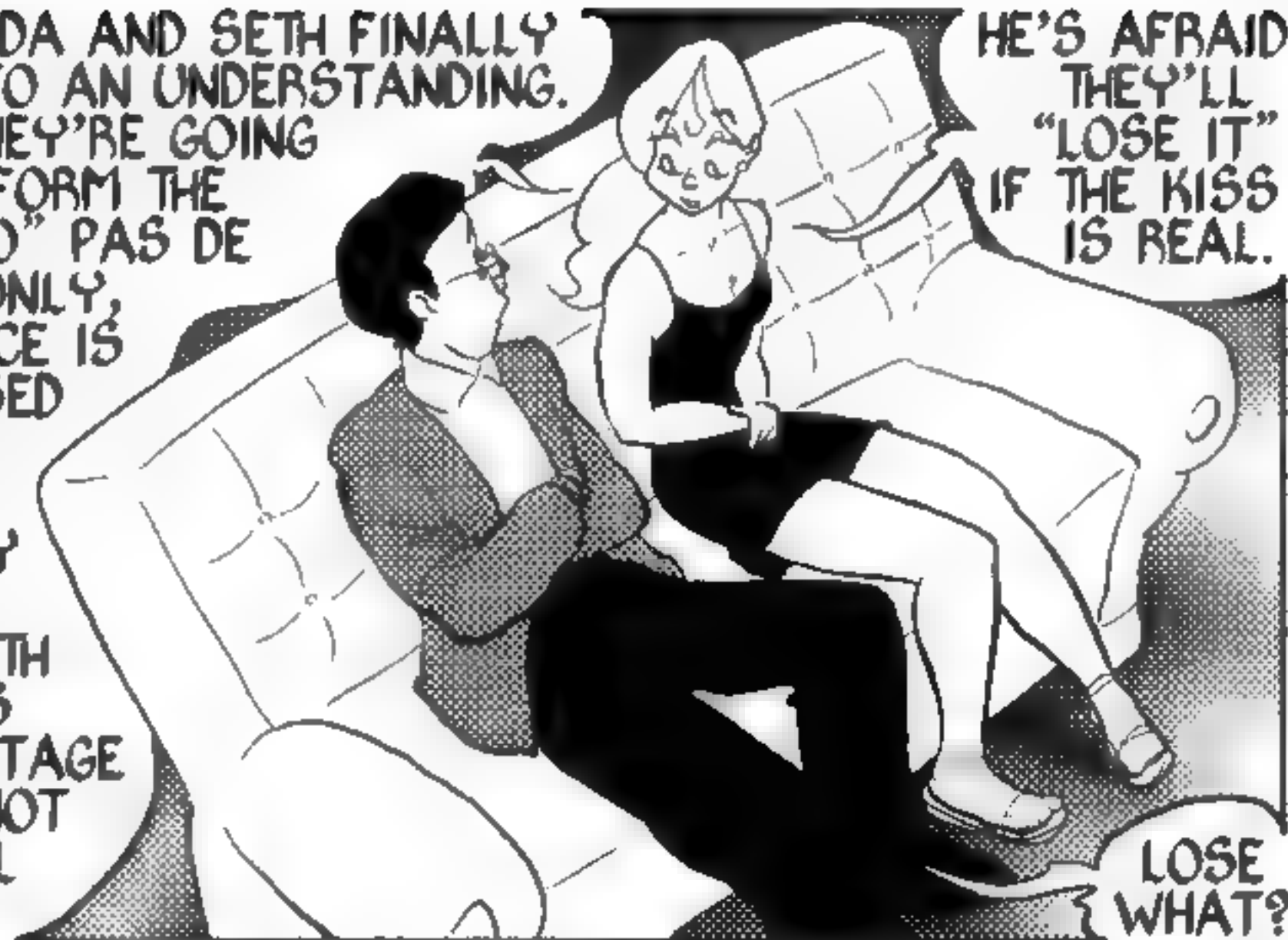


WHAT?

COULD YOU VOW
A LITTLE FURTHER
BACK? ...YOU'RE
KNEELING ON
MY FOOT.

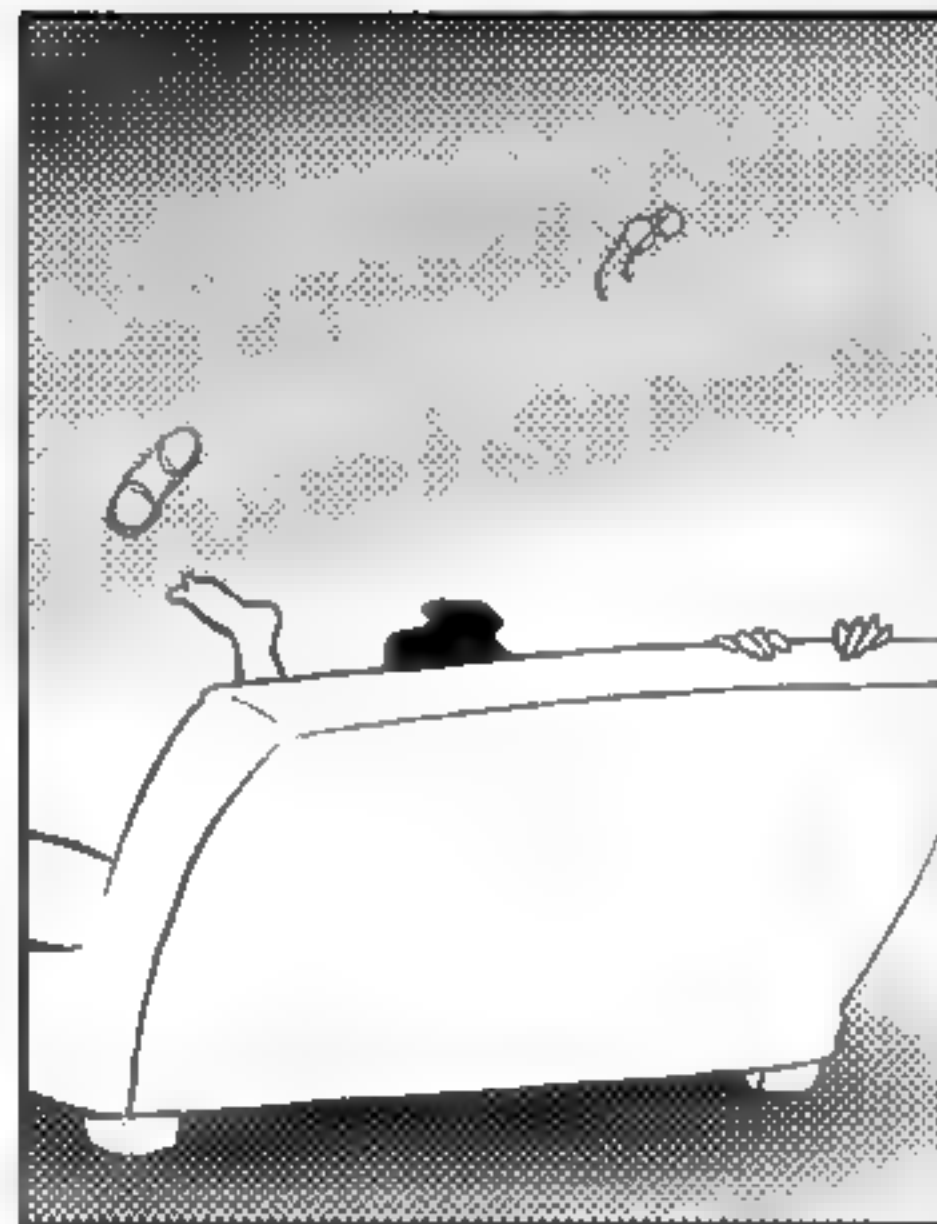


FERNANDA AND SETH FINALLY
CAME TO AN UNDERSTANDING.
...SO THEY'RE GOING
TO PERFORM THE
"BOLERO" PAS DE
DEUX. ONLY,
THE PIECE IS
SUPPOSED
TO END
WITH A
STEAMY
KISS,
AND SETH
INSISTS
ON A STAGE
KISS, NOT
A REAL
ONE.



HE'S AFRAID
THEY'LL
"LOSE IT"
IF THE KISS
IS REAL.

LOSE
WHAT?



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5-31

oh...
that.

I GET MINE
BACK, OVER AND
OVER, JUST SO
I CAN LOSE IT
AGAIN.

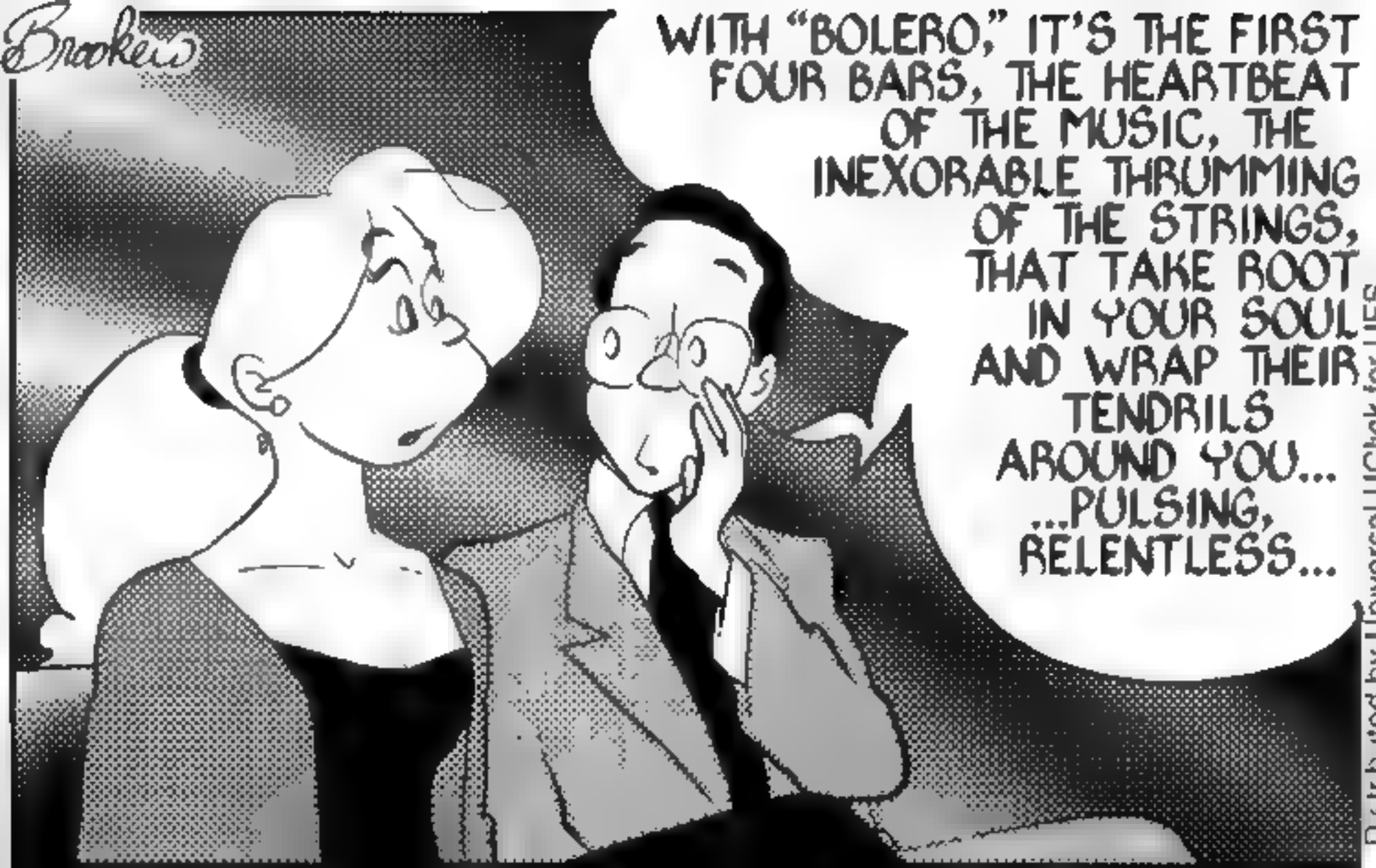
Brooke

I HAVEN'T BEEN TO
REHEARSALS,
BUT I HEAR
THIS NEW
CHOREO-
GRAPHY
IS PRETTY
SULTRY.

THAT
WOULD
BE MY
GUESS.

WHAT
MAKES
YOU SAY
THAT?

THE
THEATRE
MANAGEMENT
THOUGHTFULLY
PROVIDED
SEAT BELTS.



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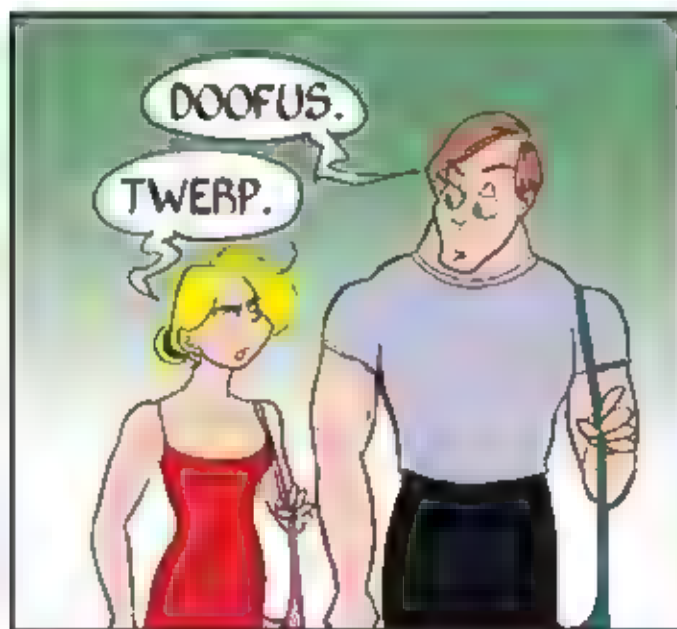
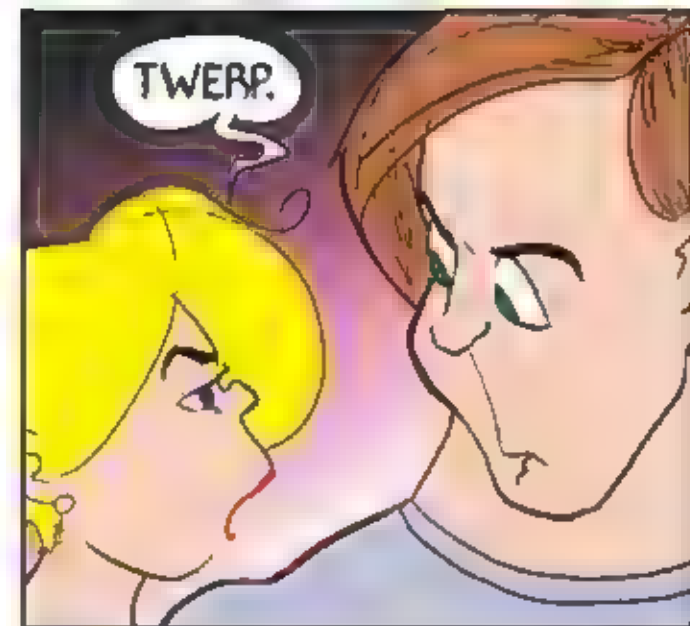
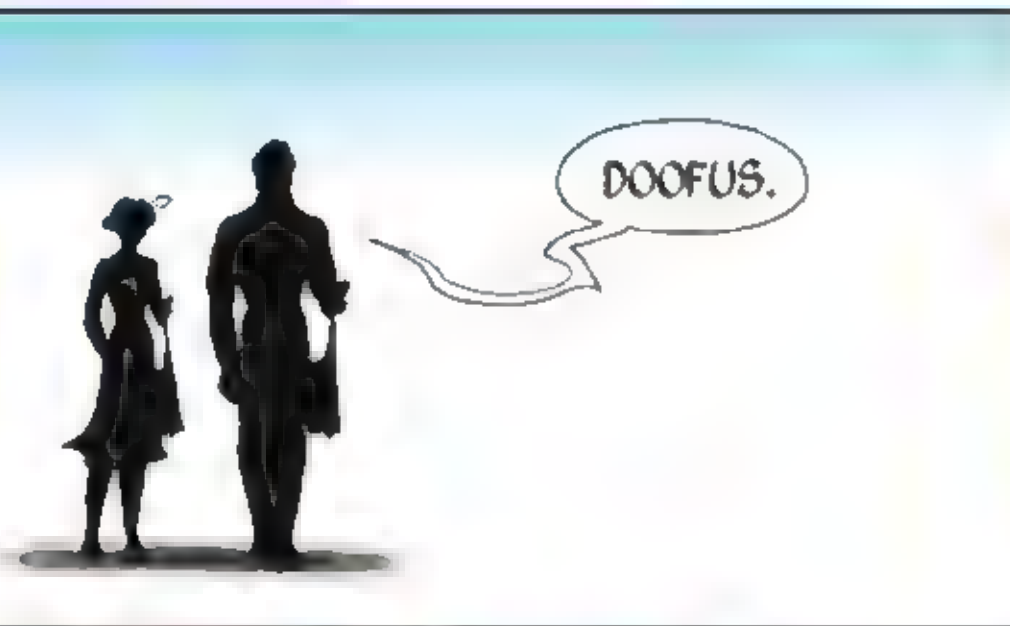


6-2 20 BROOKLYN

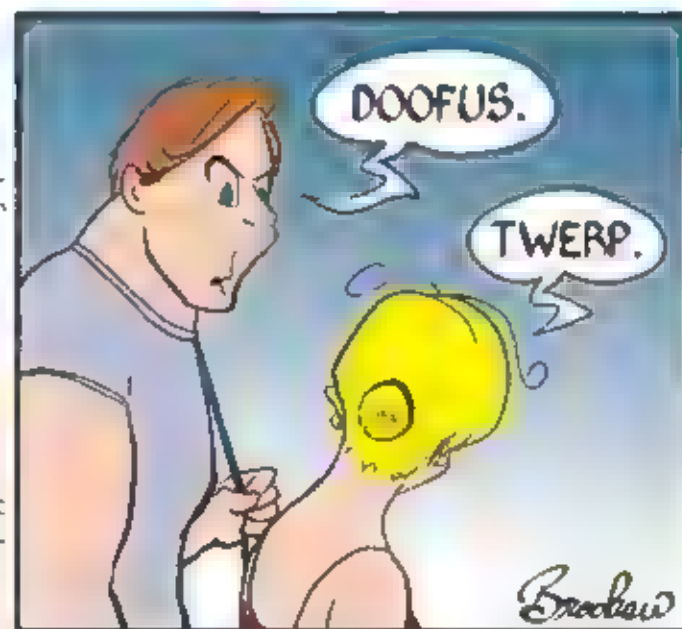




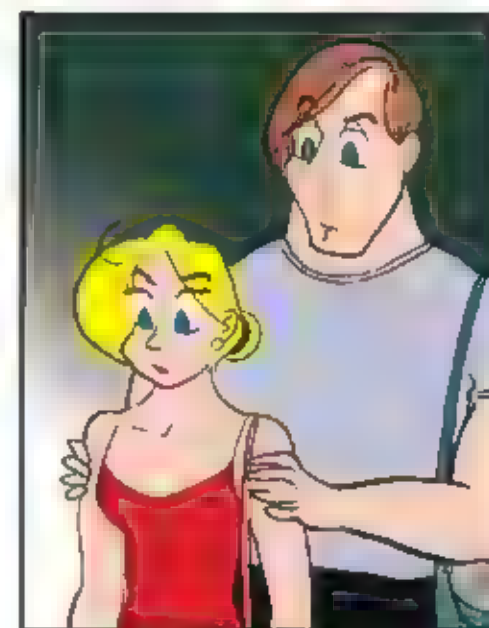
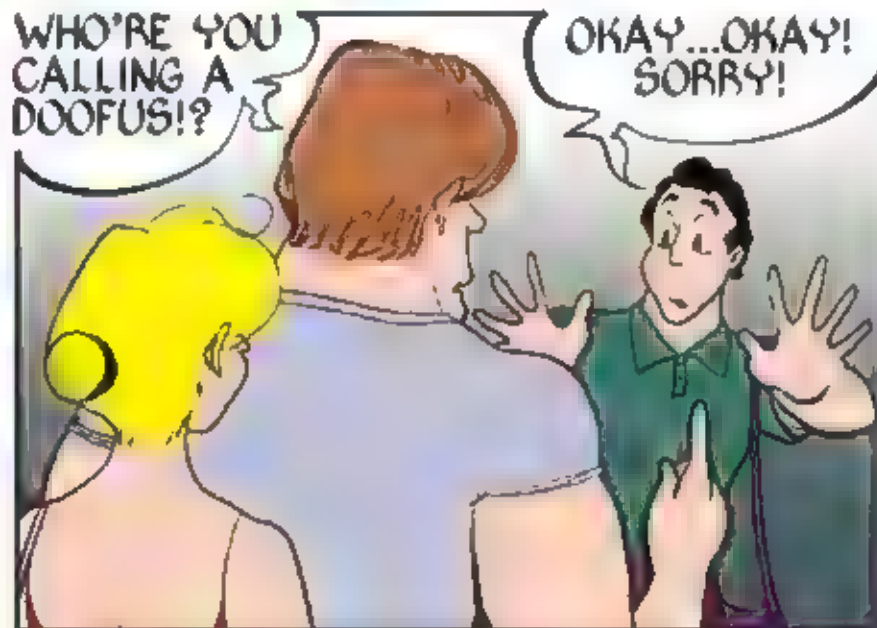
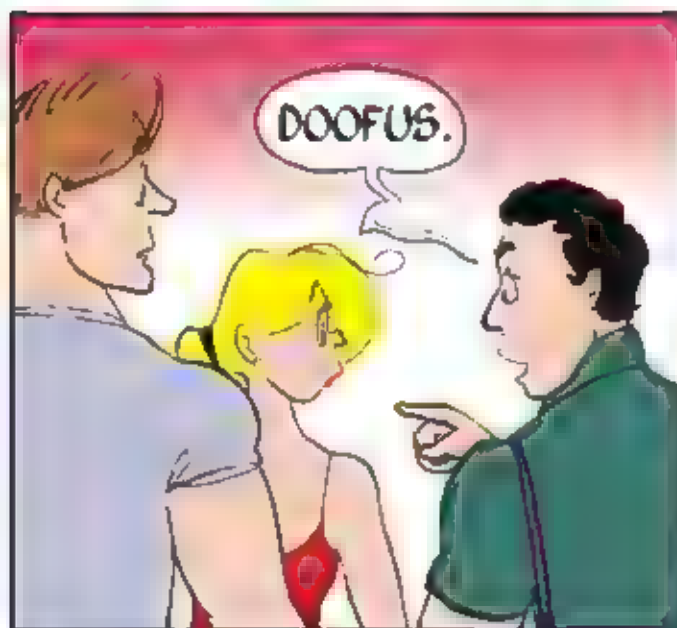
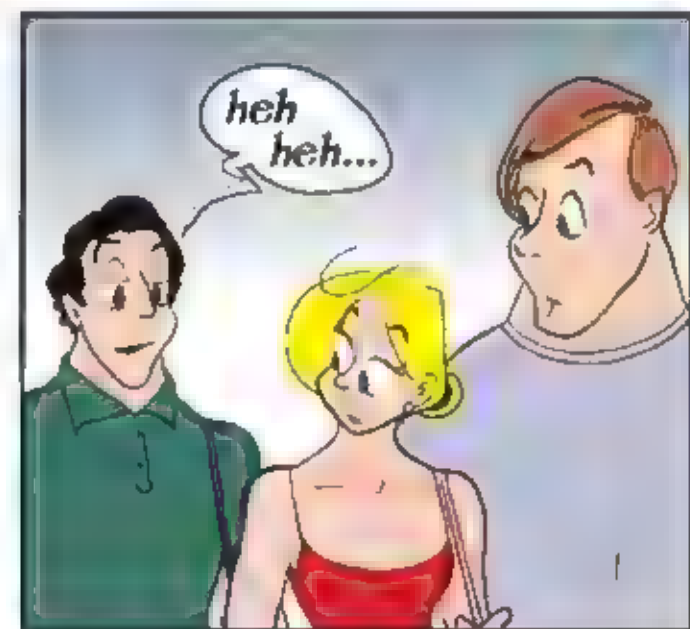




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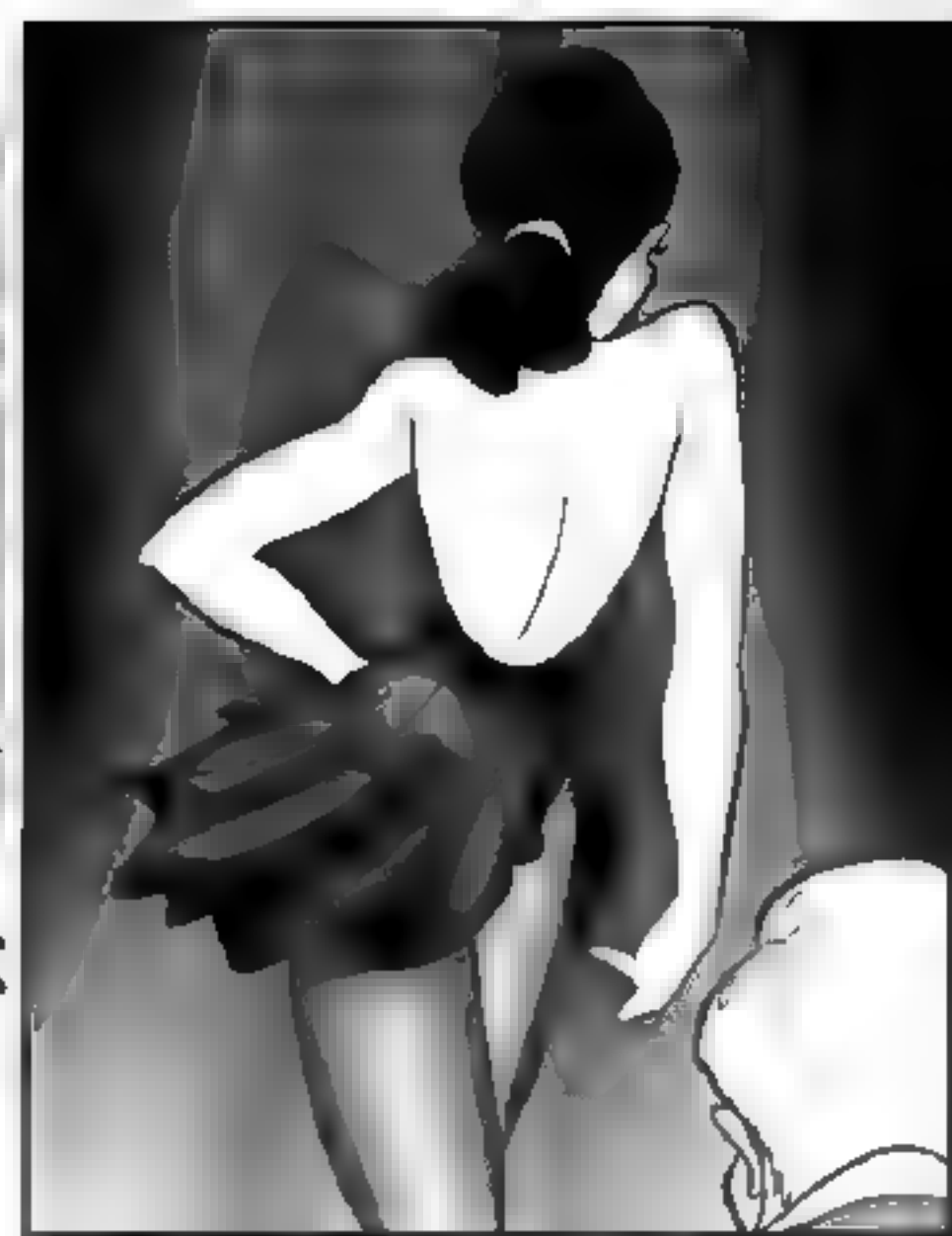
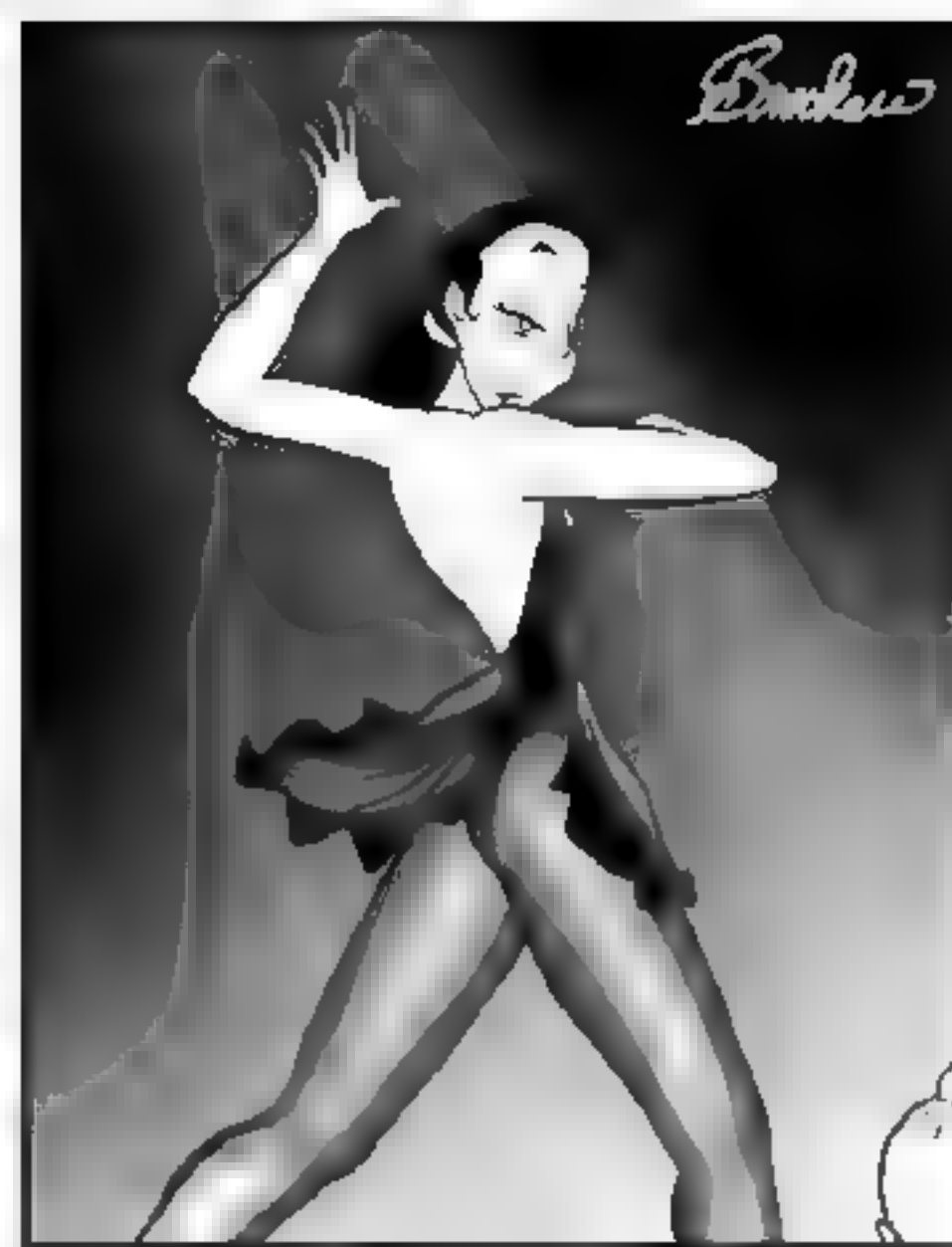


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Brooks







6-9 2011 Brooke Milton



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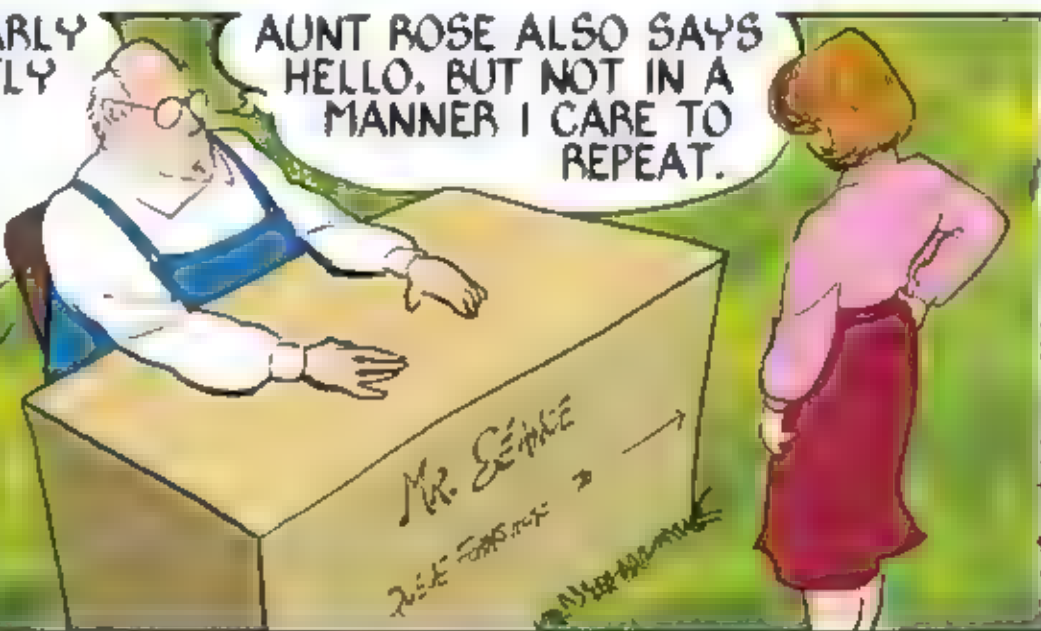
MR. SÉANCE

QUEUE FORMS HERE ➡



YOUR UNCLE CHARLY SAYS HE SECRETLY FANCIED YOU...
...IN A MANNER THAT, ONCE CONFESSED TO AUNT ROSE, LEFT HIM DISTRIBUTED WIDELY IN A VARIETY OF UNMARKED GRAVES.

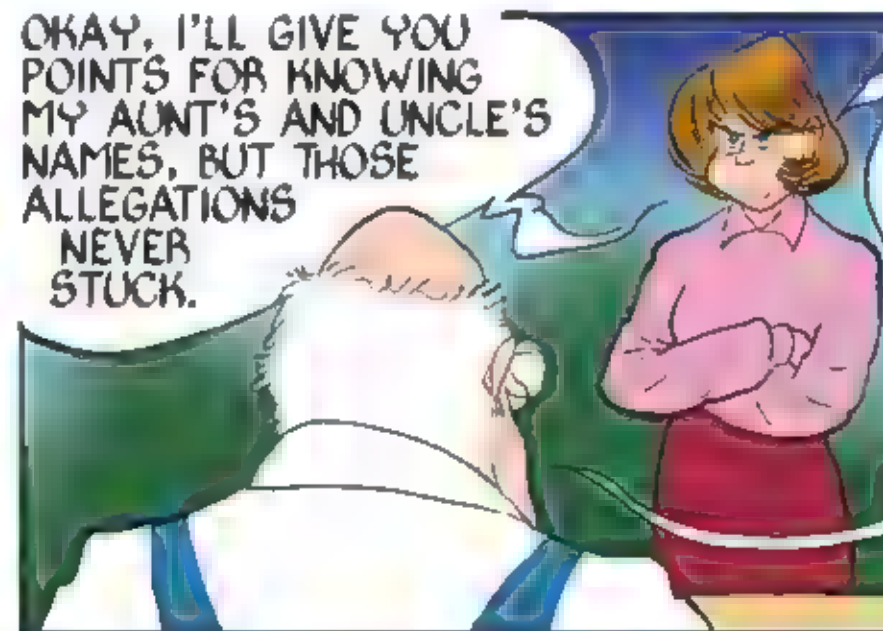
AUNT ROSE ALSO SAYS HELLO, BUT NOT IN A MANNER I CARE TO REPEAT.



OKAY, I'LL GIVE YOU POINTS FOR KNOWING MY AUNT'S AND UNCLE'S NAMES, BUT THOSE ALLEGATIONS NEVER STUCK.

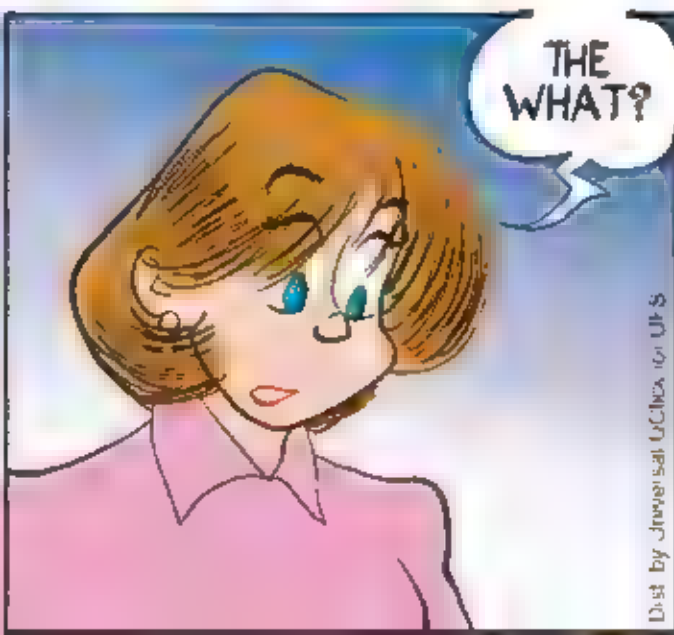
BASICALLY, YOU'RE NOT OFFERING ANYTHING EVEN REMOTELY APPROACHING PROOF OF YOUR CLAIMS AS A MEDIUM.

OH...
...I'M SORRY.
DID I FORGET THE ECTOPLASM?



Drake

THE
WHAT?



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DON'T
JUST GAPE.
...HAND ME A
KLEENEX.



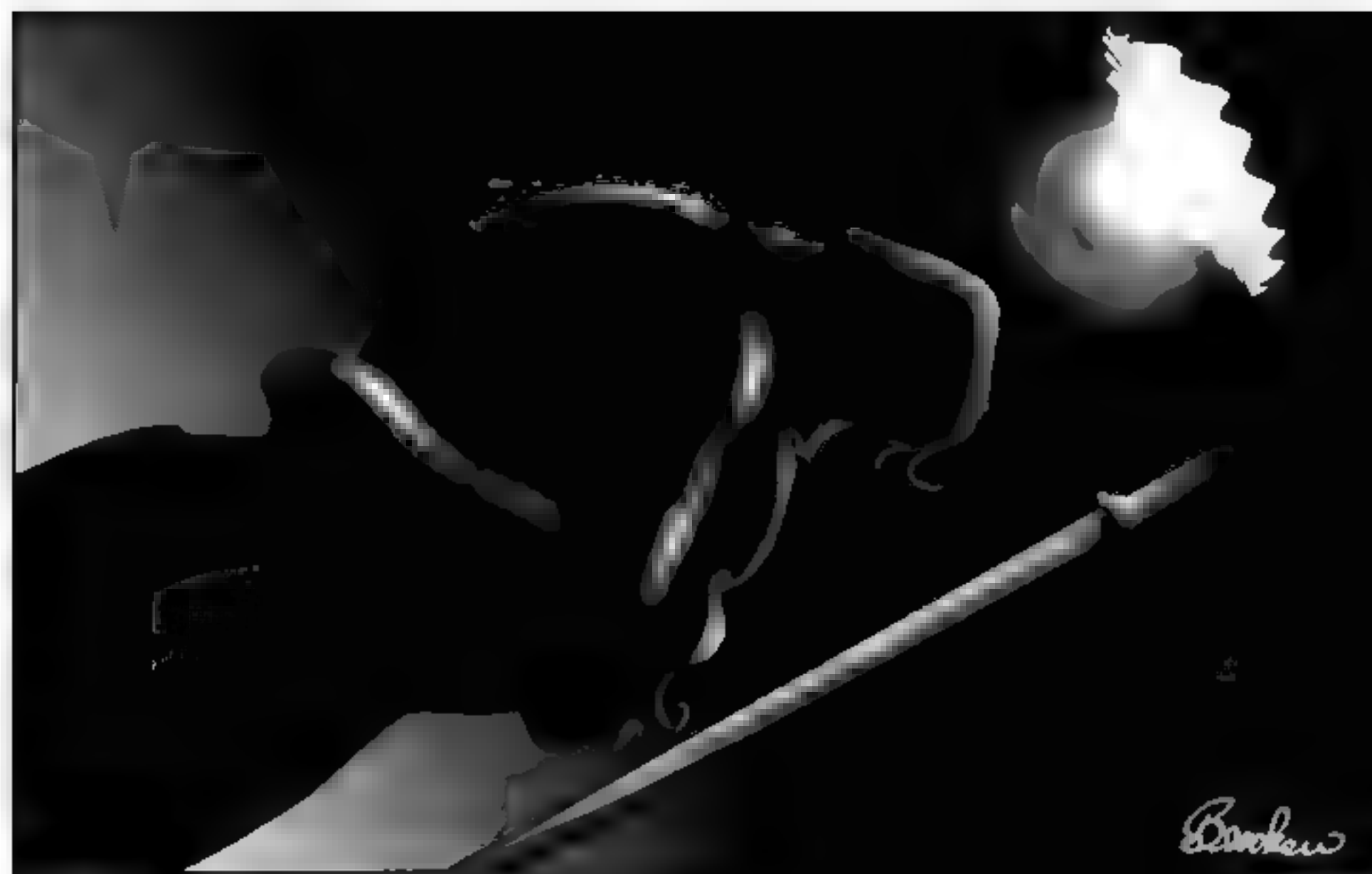
THAT WAS A VERY CONVINCING
STAGE KISS YOU GAVE ME...
HAD IT NOT BEEN
A STAGE KISS,
WE MIGHT
HAVE
ENDED
UP IN
SOME
REALLY
AWK-
WARD
POS-
ITION.

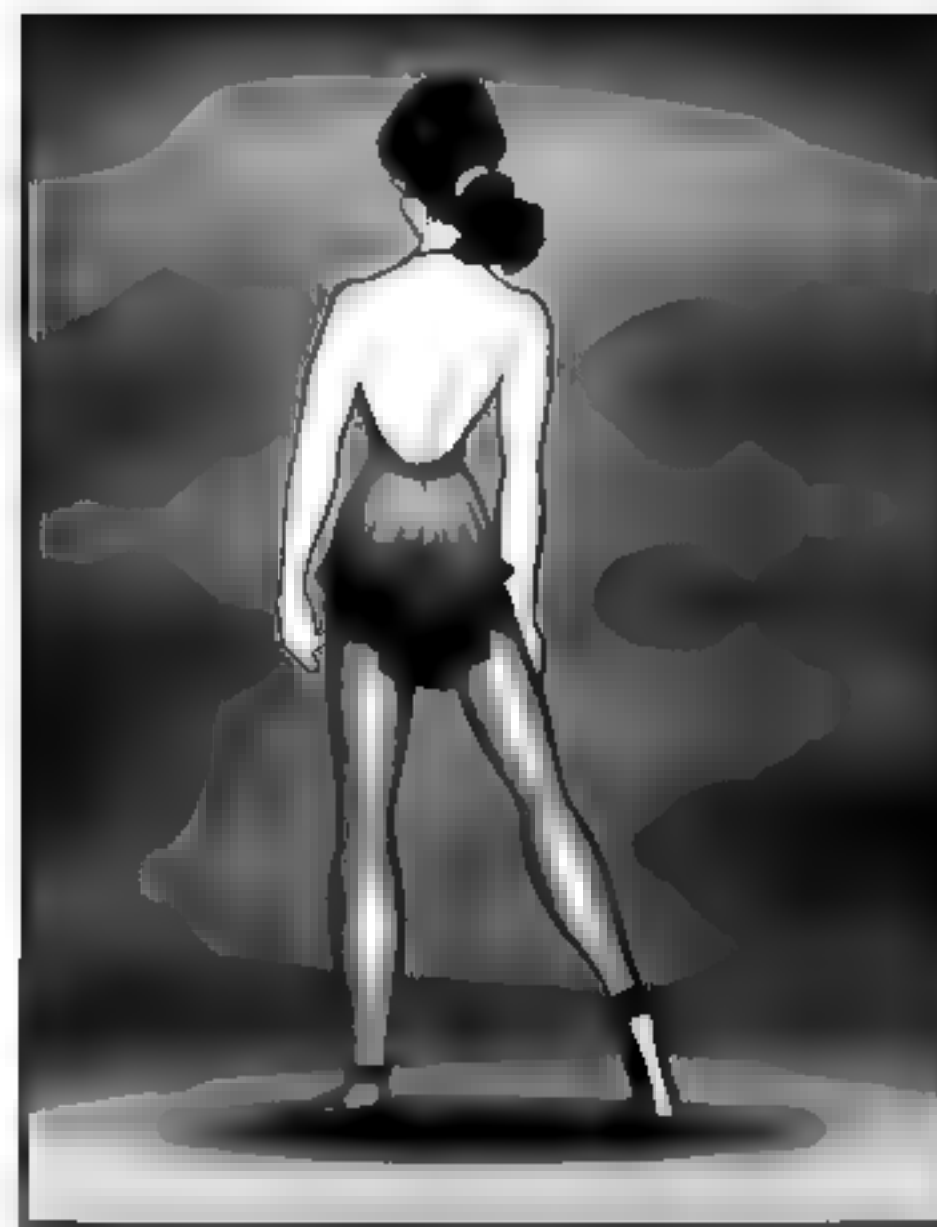


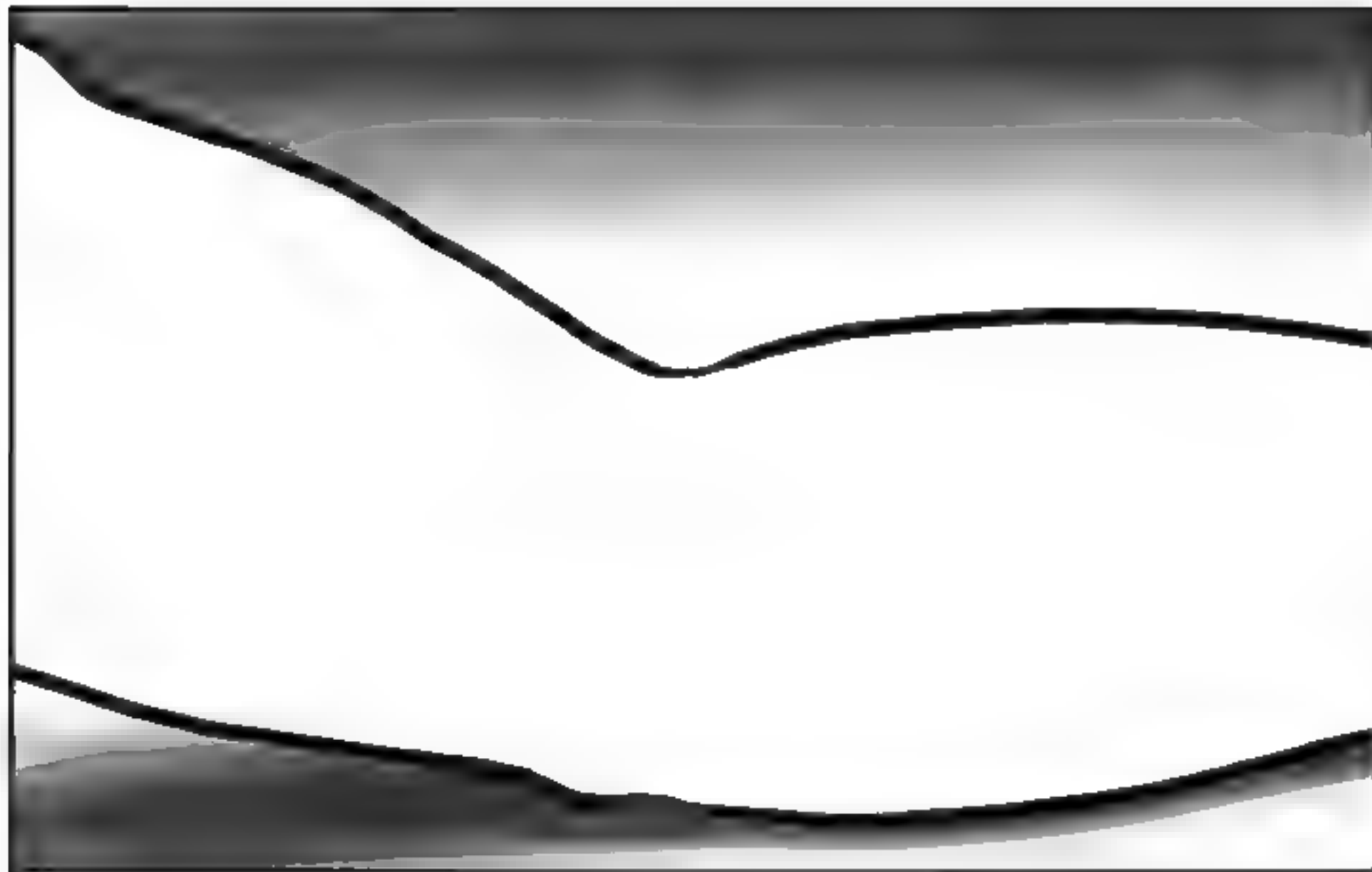
YOU MEAN,
LIKE THIS?



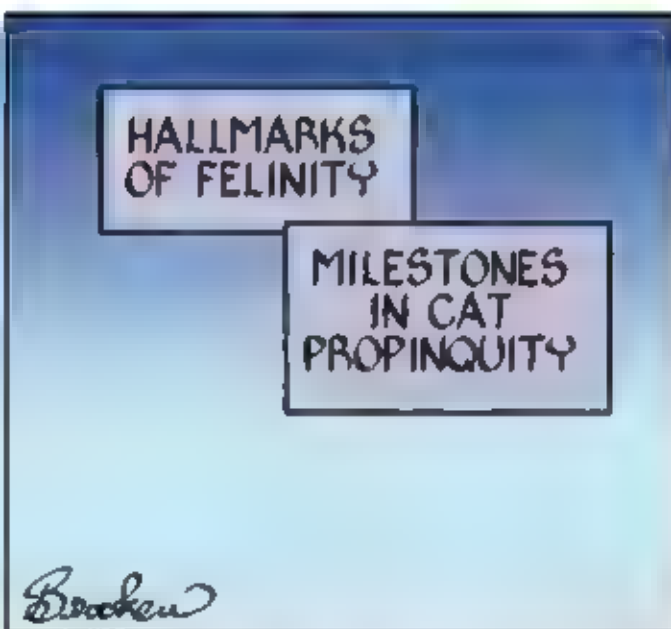
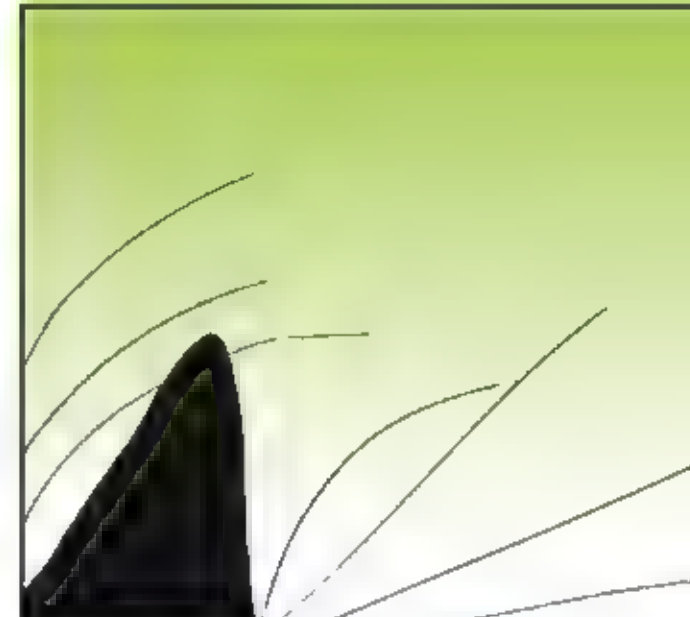
Brooke



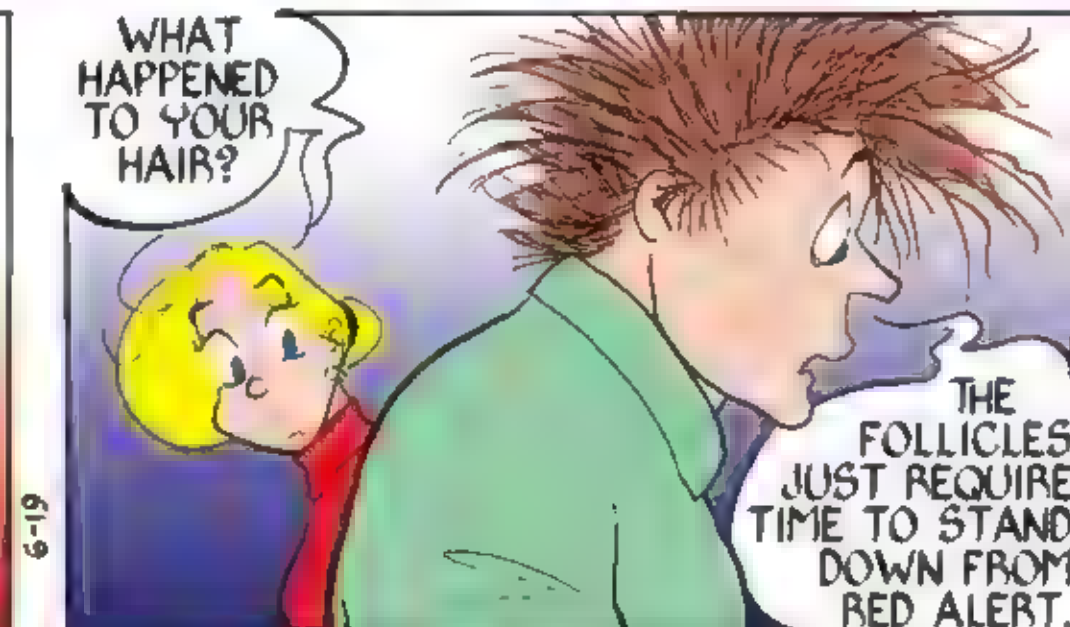
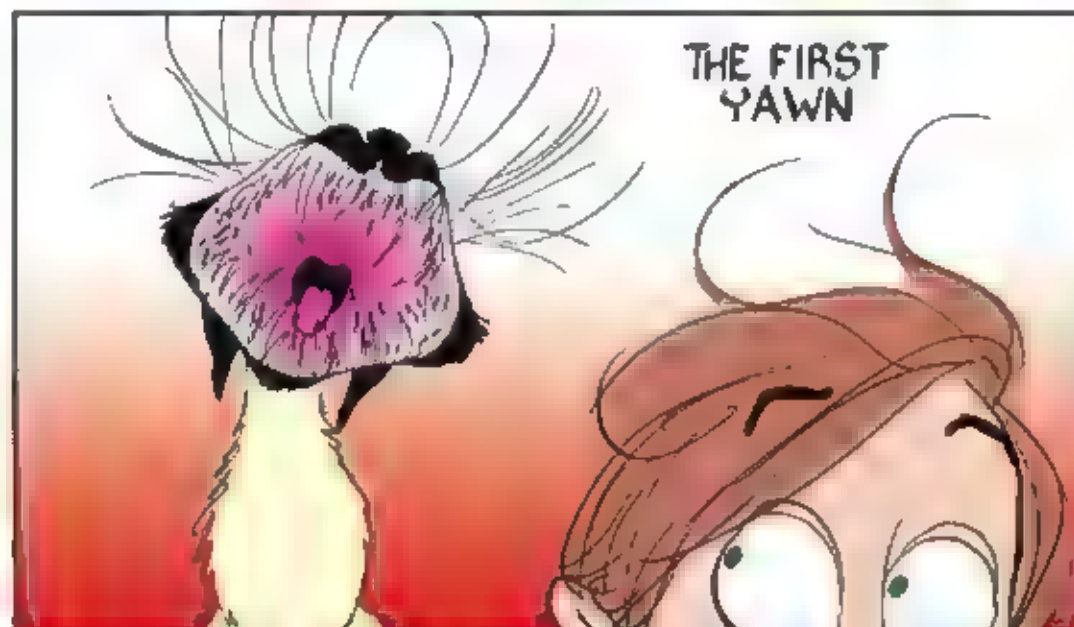
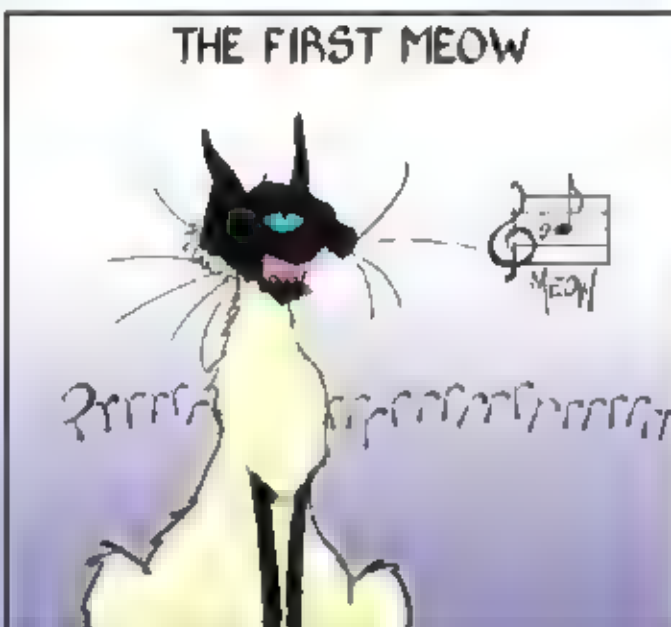
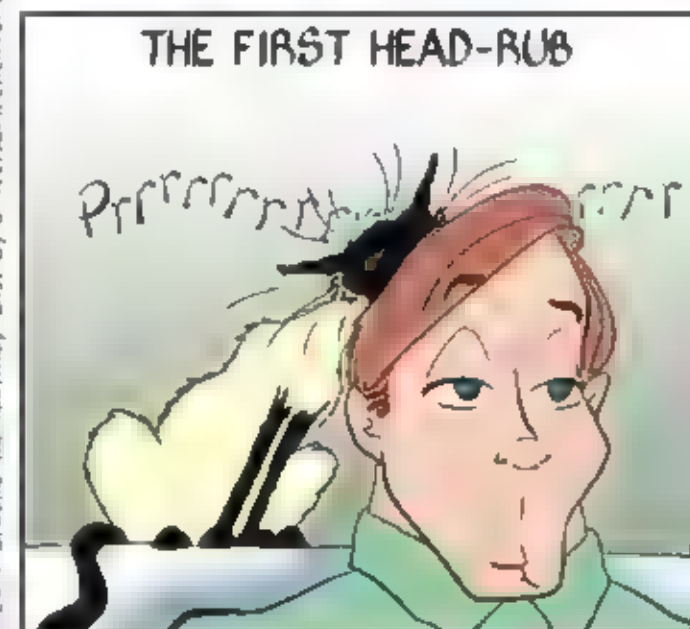
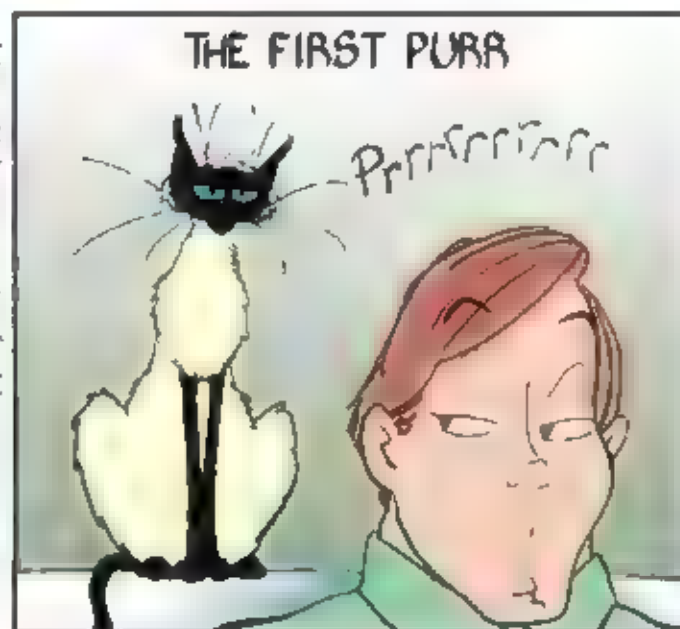




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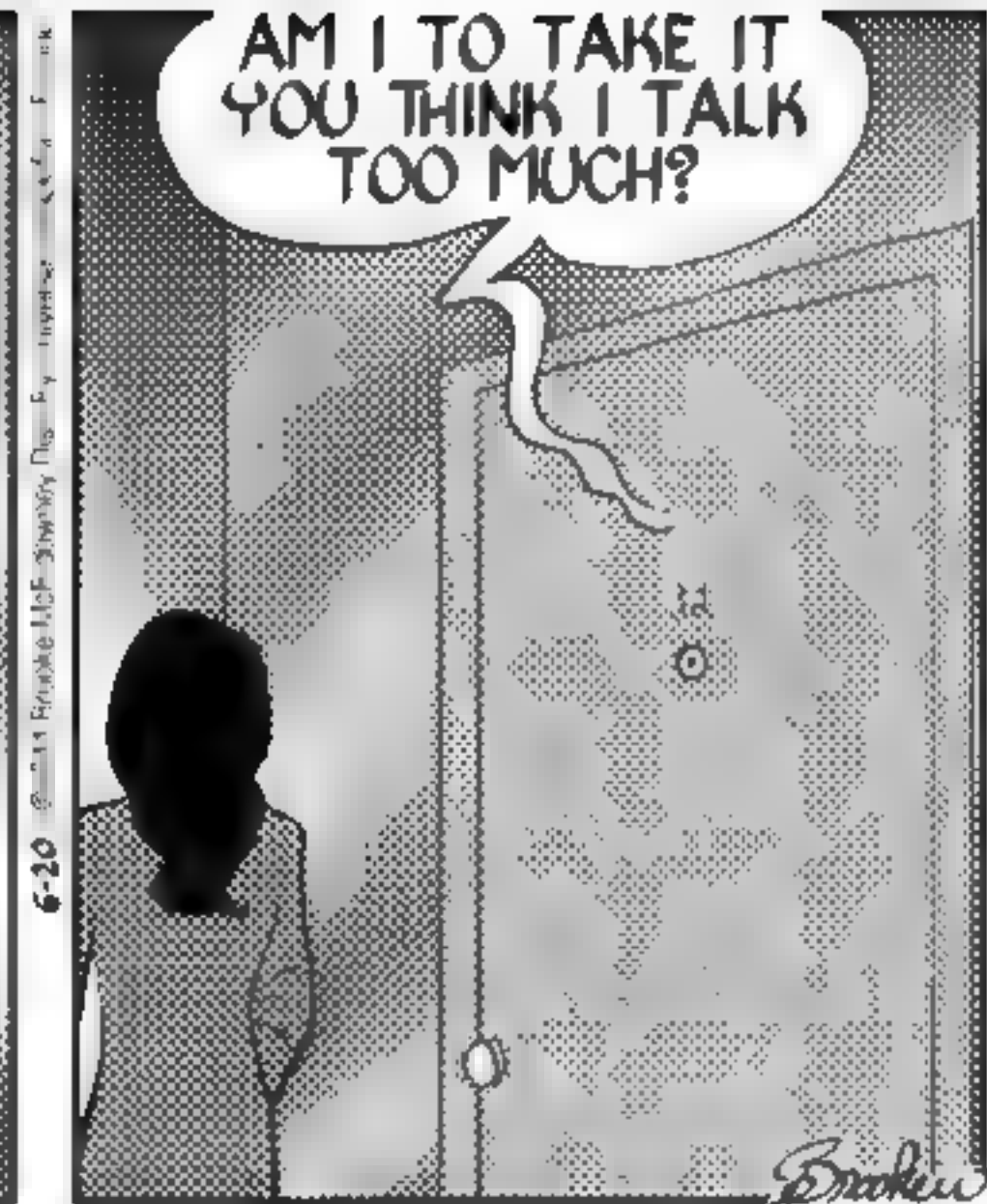


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SO WE CAN PART, FRIENDS
AND COLLEAGUES,
CIVILIZED
PEOPLE?

YES...
...BUT
PERHAPS
WITH ONE
FINAL
KISS?

OF COURSE. ONE LAST KISS.
...ONE SWEET, PARTING
TESTAMENT TO WHAT WE
MEANT TO EACH OTHER.
...TO THE PURITY OF OUR
BOND, OF OUR LASTING,
UNSULLIED...



AM I TO TAKE IT
YOU THINK I TALK
TOO MUCH?

...A RABBI, A PRIEST AND
A TALKING PENGUIN WALK
INTO A BAR...

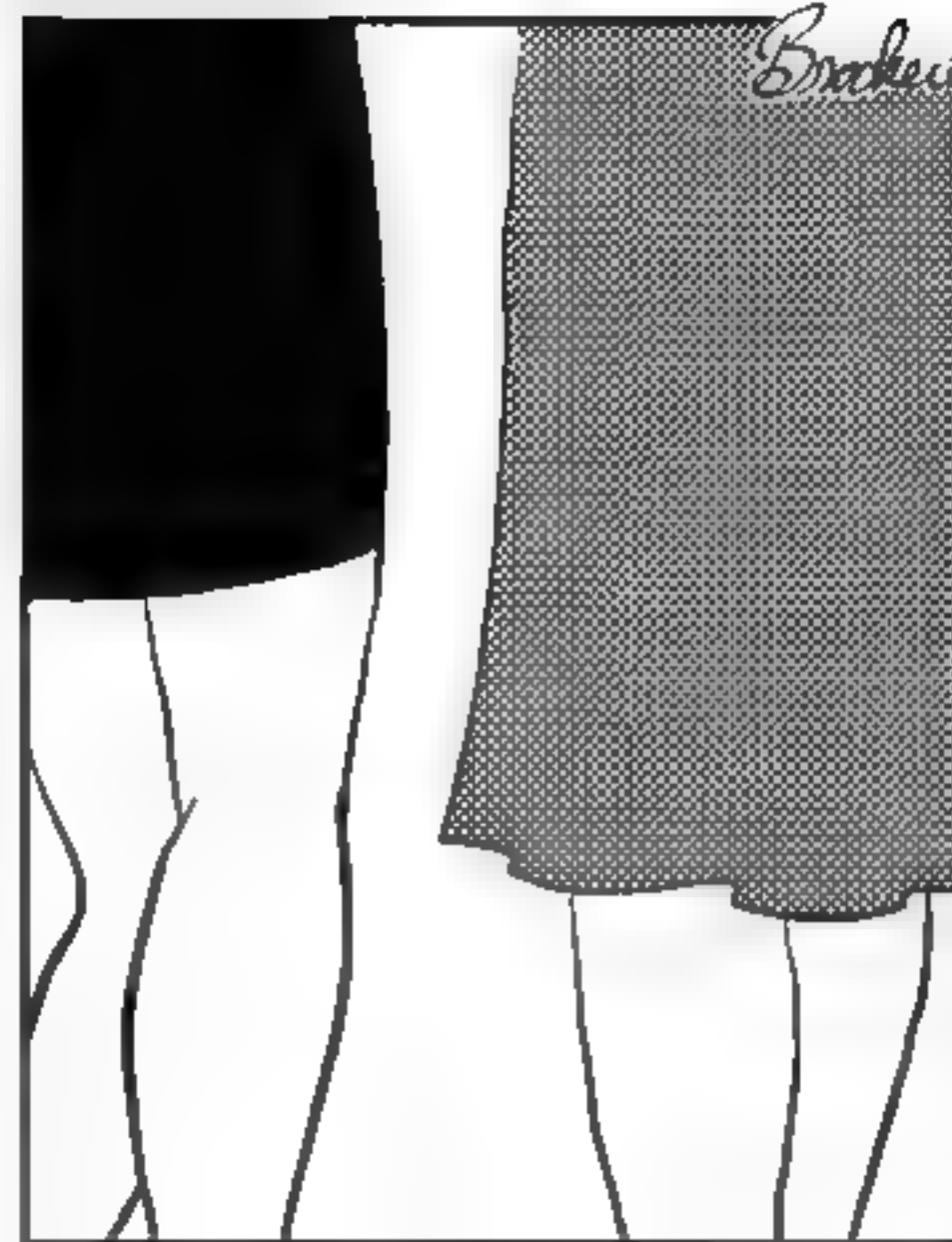


EDDA, I THINK I SHOULD
TELL YOU THAT SETH AND
I JUST BROKE IT OFF.

OH, LORD...ARE YOU SAD?
I MEAN, IS THIS ONE OF
THOSE GIRLIE MOMENTS
WHERE WE HUG AND SHED
TEARS AND I TELL YOU THE
PAIN WILL PASS AND WE
EAT ICE CREAM...?



NO.



RIGHT...SO A RABBI,
A PRIEST AND A TALKING
PENGUIN WALK INTO
A BAR...



THE THING
ABOUT SETH IS,
HE WAS MY
VERY FIRST.

YOUR
VERY FIRST...
...WHAT?

....EITHER
YOU'RE TRYING
TO GET ME
TO SPEAK IN
JUICIER
TERMS,
OR MY
COMMAND
OF ENGLISH
IS WORSE
THAN I
THOUGHT.

622 Brooke

SpS...SpKSpSsptS...

DID I
GET THE
WORDS
RIGHT?

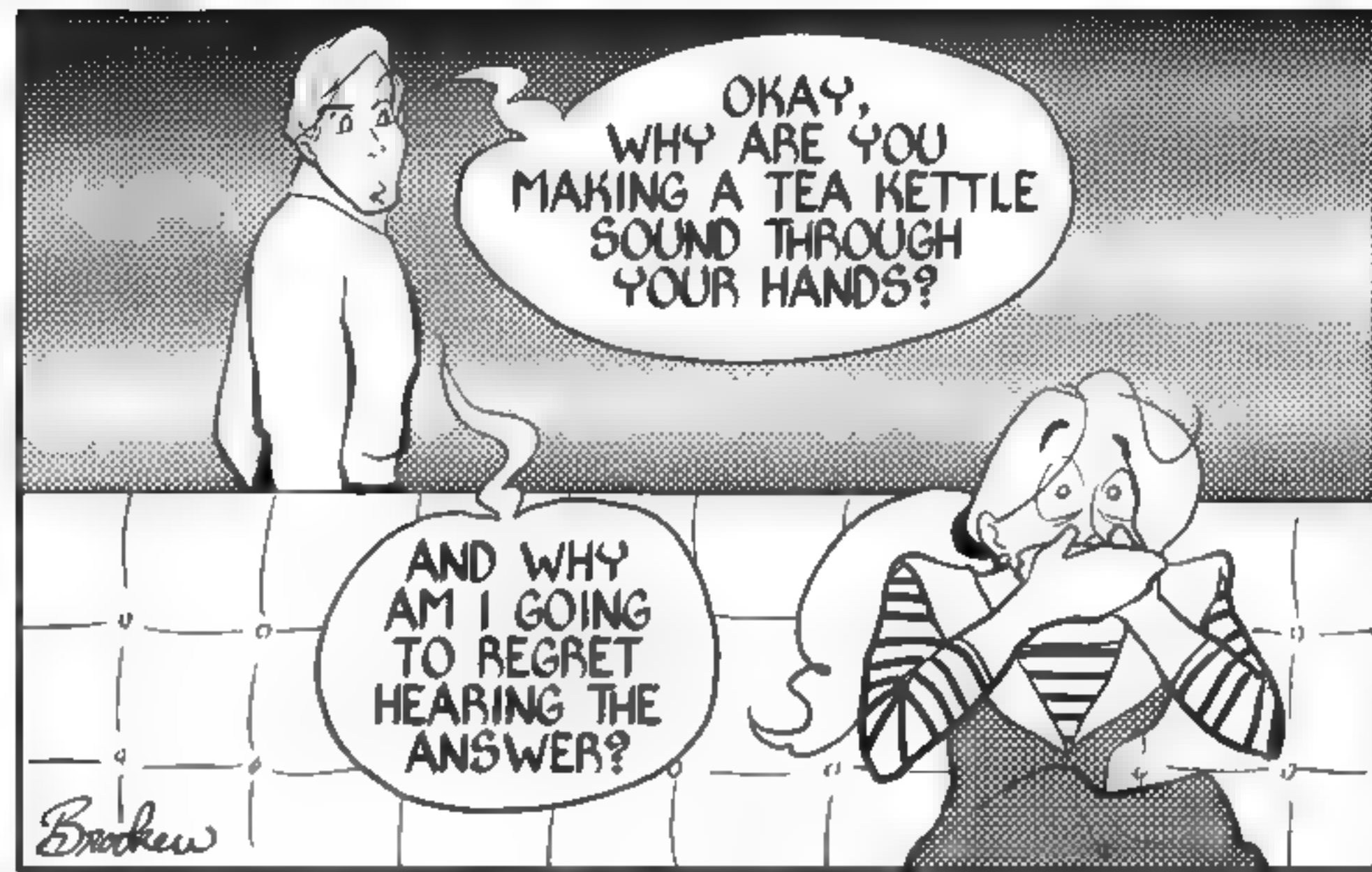
PERFECT.
I ALWAYS FEEL
THAT TRUE COMMAND
OF A LANGUAGE IS
BASED ON KNOWING
WHICH PARTS OF IT
MUST BE WHISPERED.

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6-23



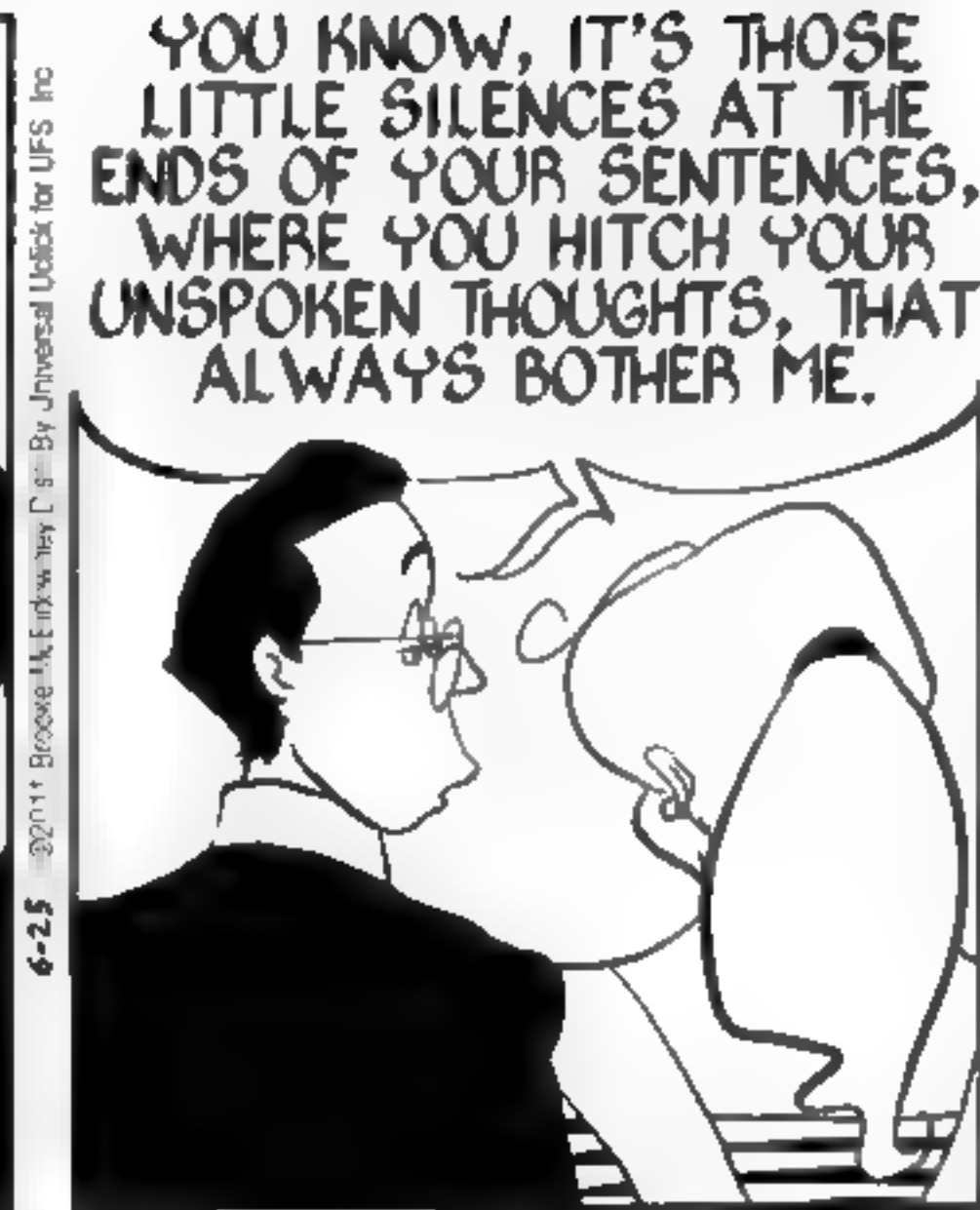
Brooke

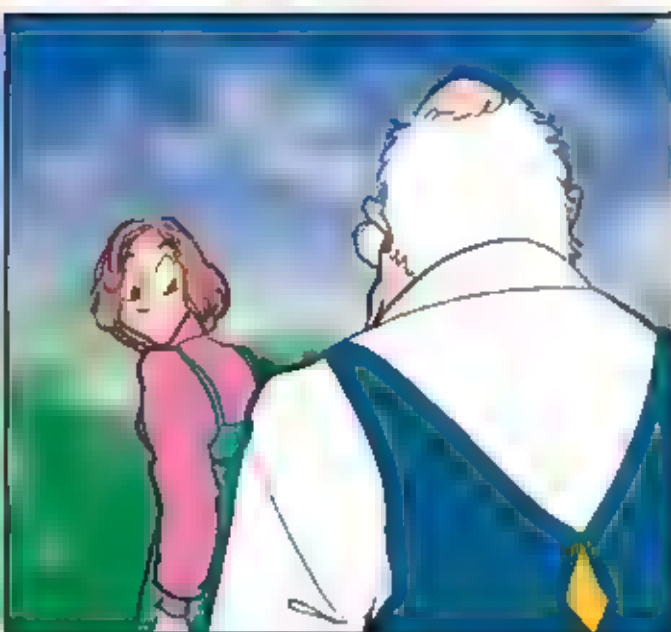
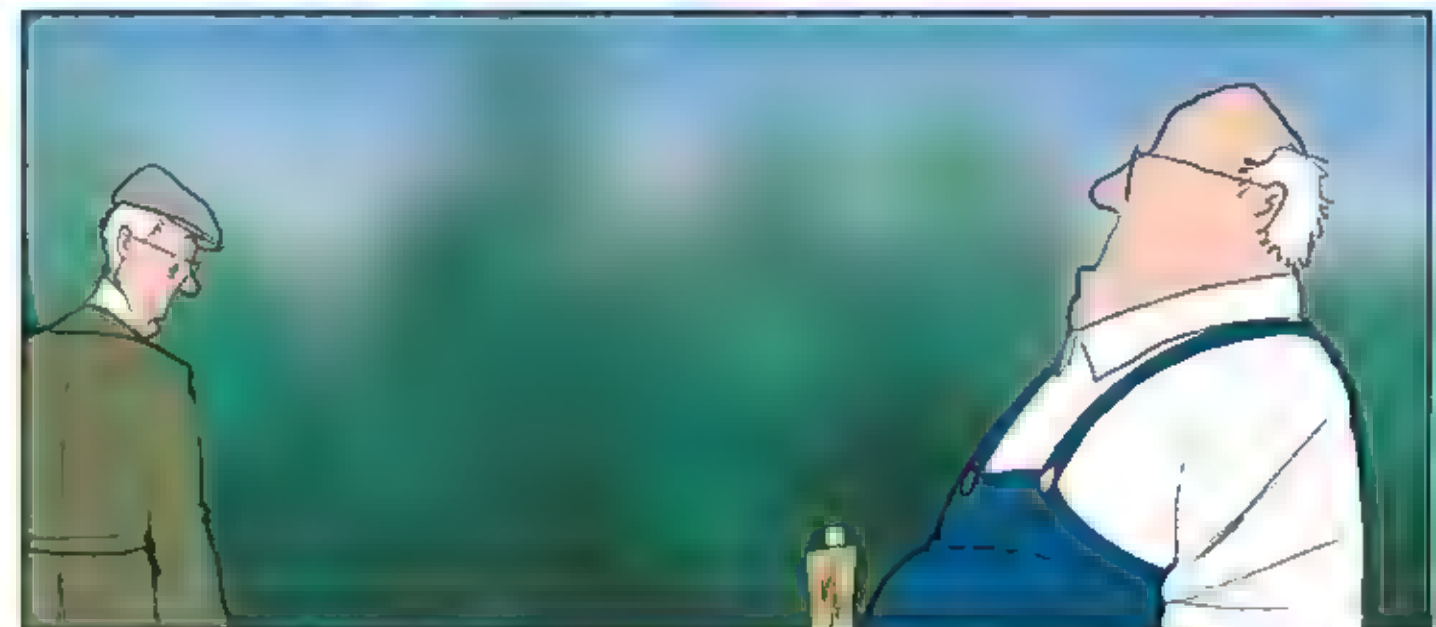
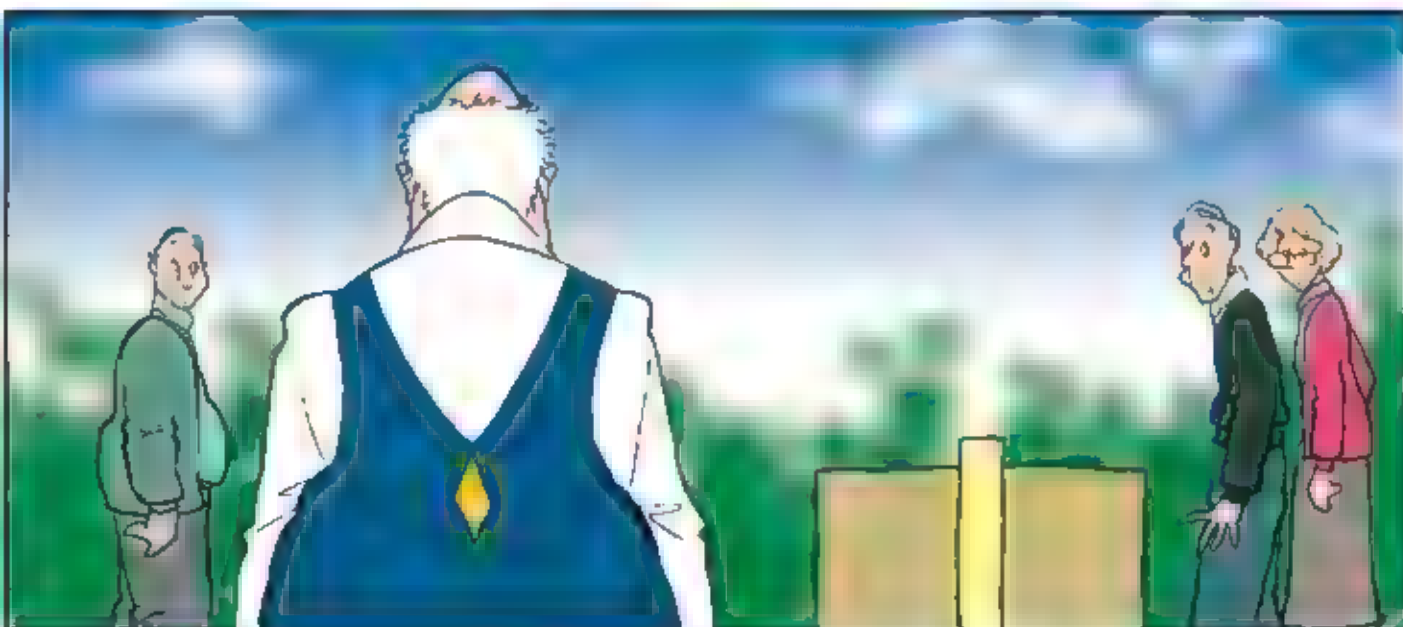
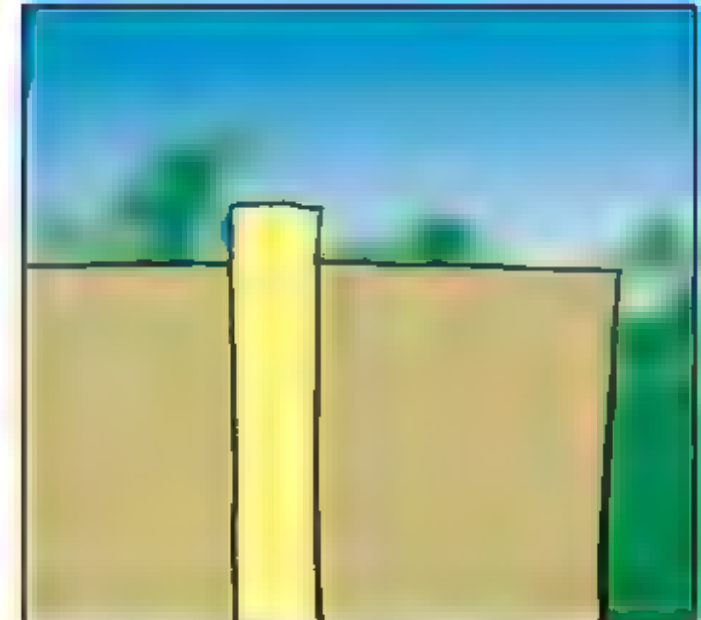
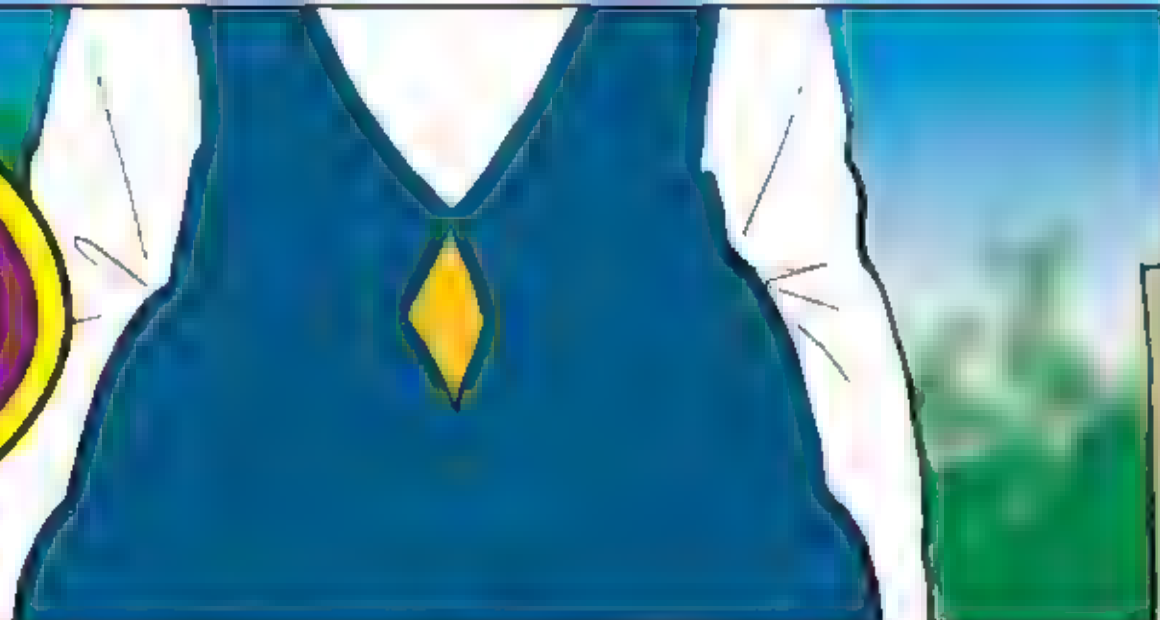
FERNANDA AND I JUST SAID OUR GOODBYES.
WE BROKE OFF THE RELATIONSHIP.
NO TEARS WERE SHED, WE REMAINED
FRIENDS. WE ONLY DID WHAT WE
KNEW HAD TO BE. I'M PROBABLY
THE BRIEFEST
LOVE AFFAIR
SHE'S EVER
HAD.

ARE
YOU EVEN
LISTENING
TO ME?

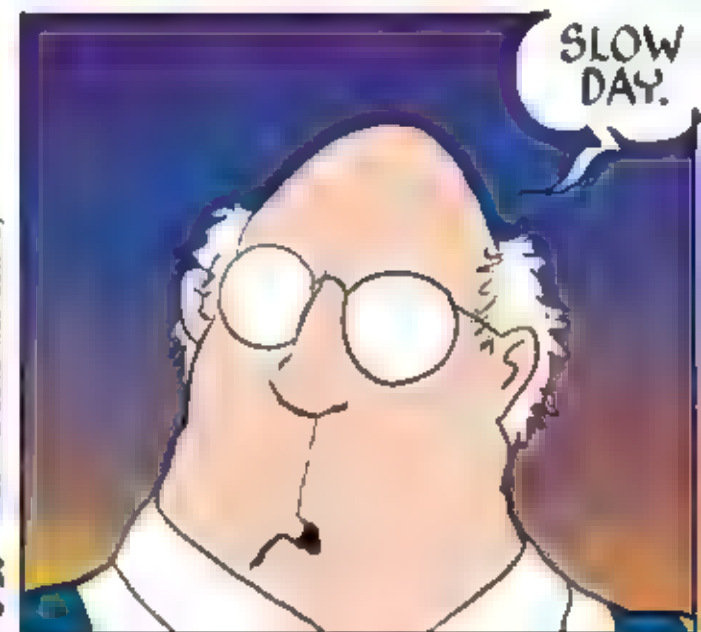
MPH!
MPH!

Brooke

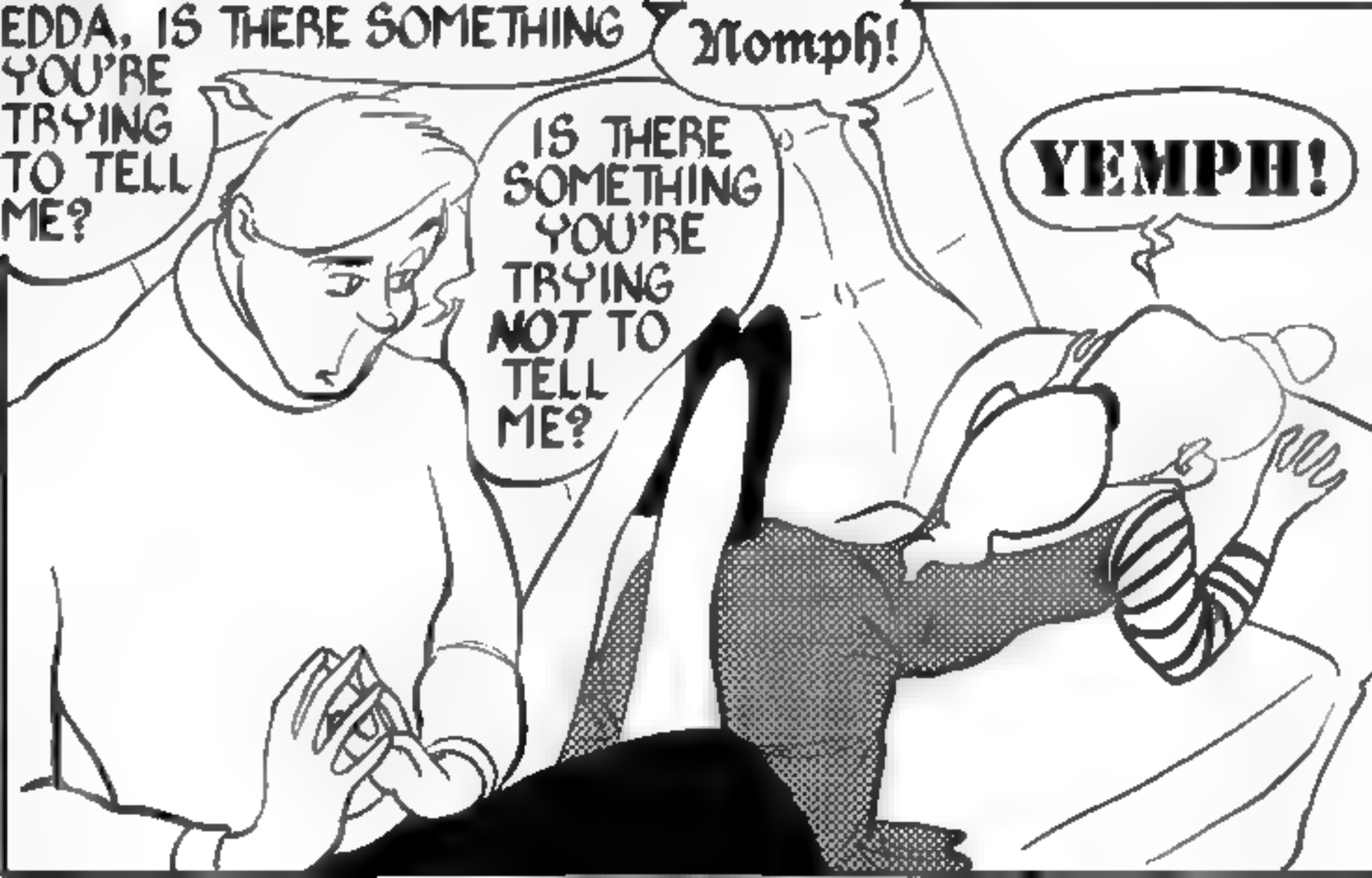




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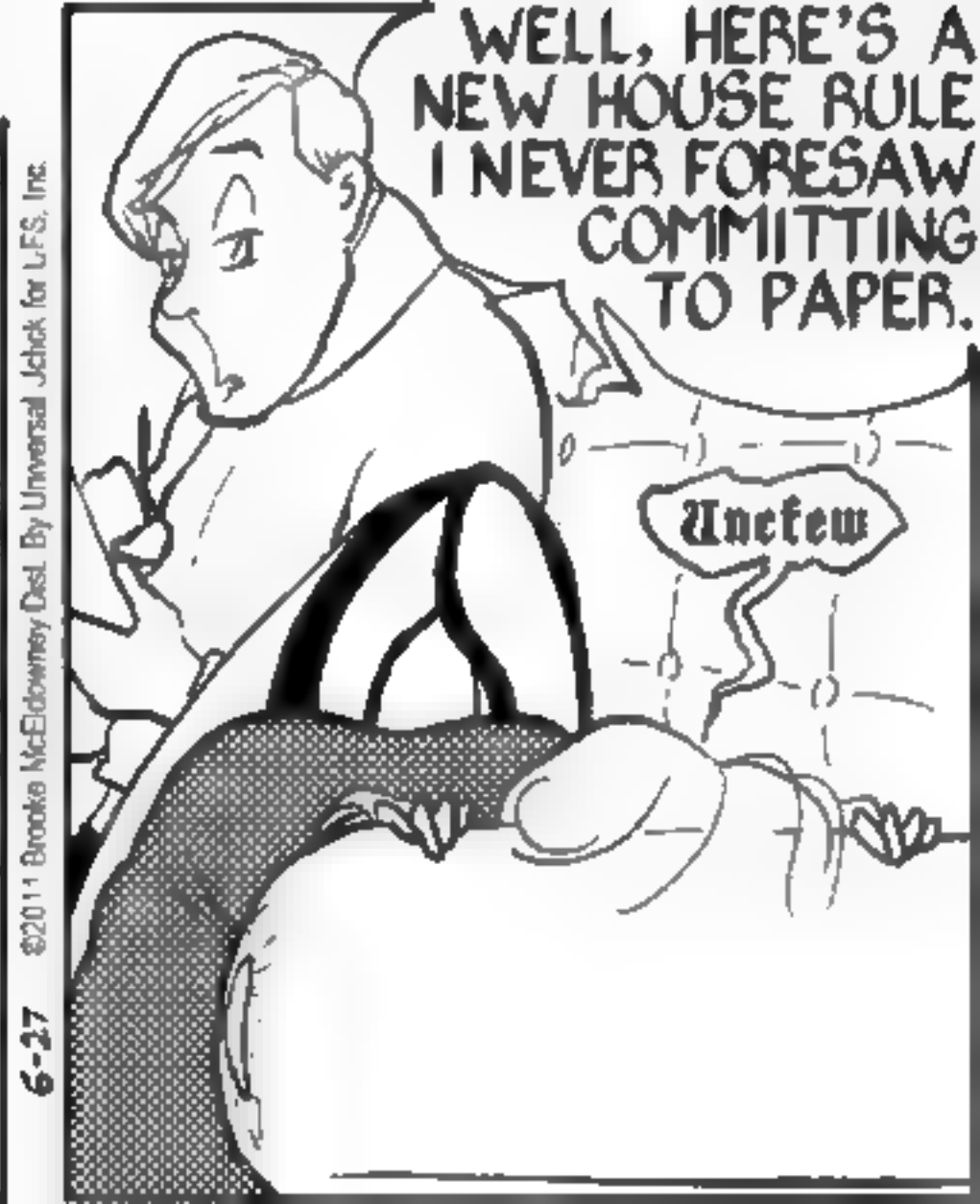
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AND IS THAT WHY YOU'RE BITING MY UPHOLSTERY?

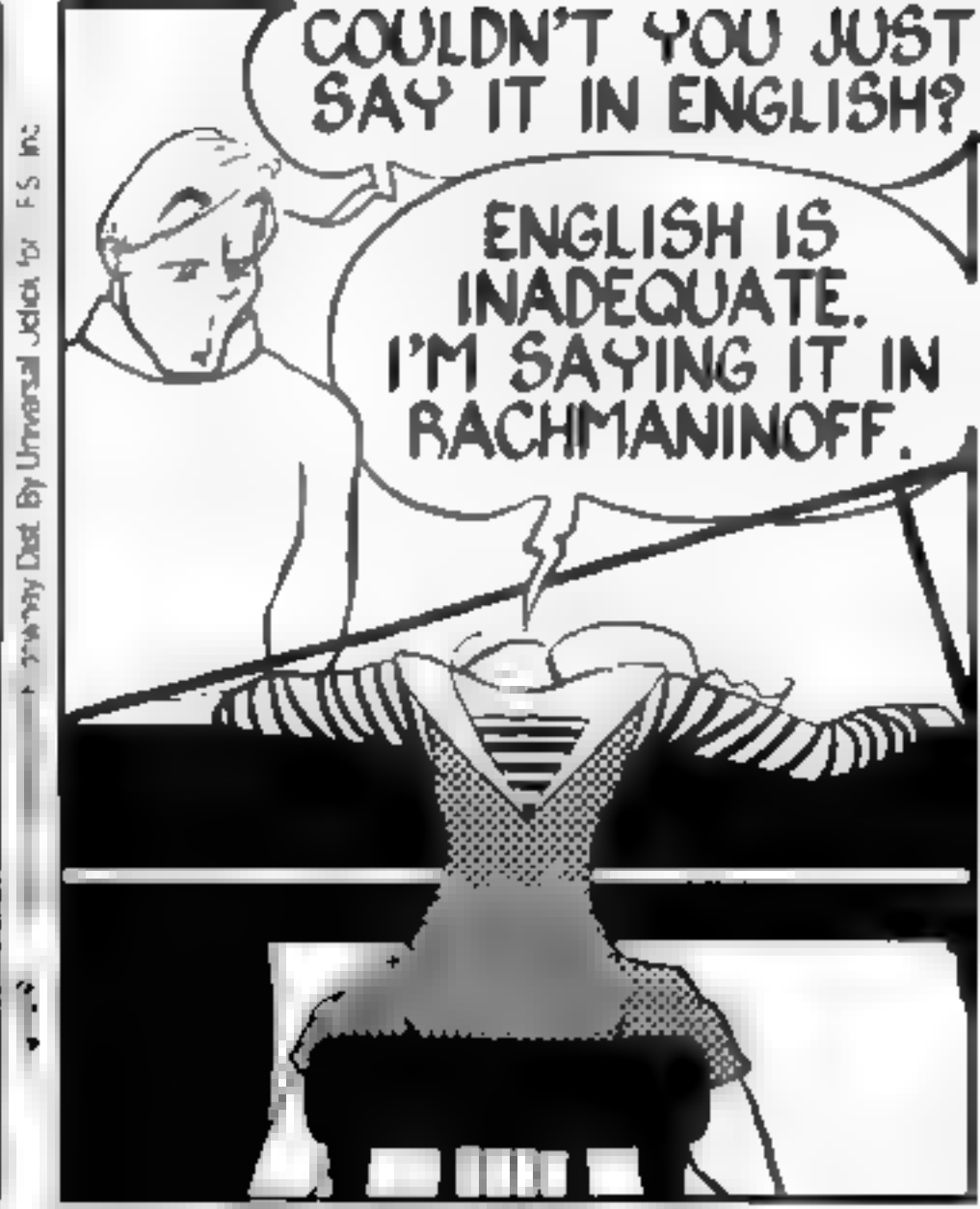


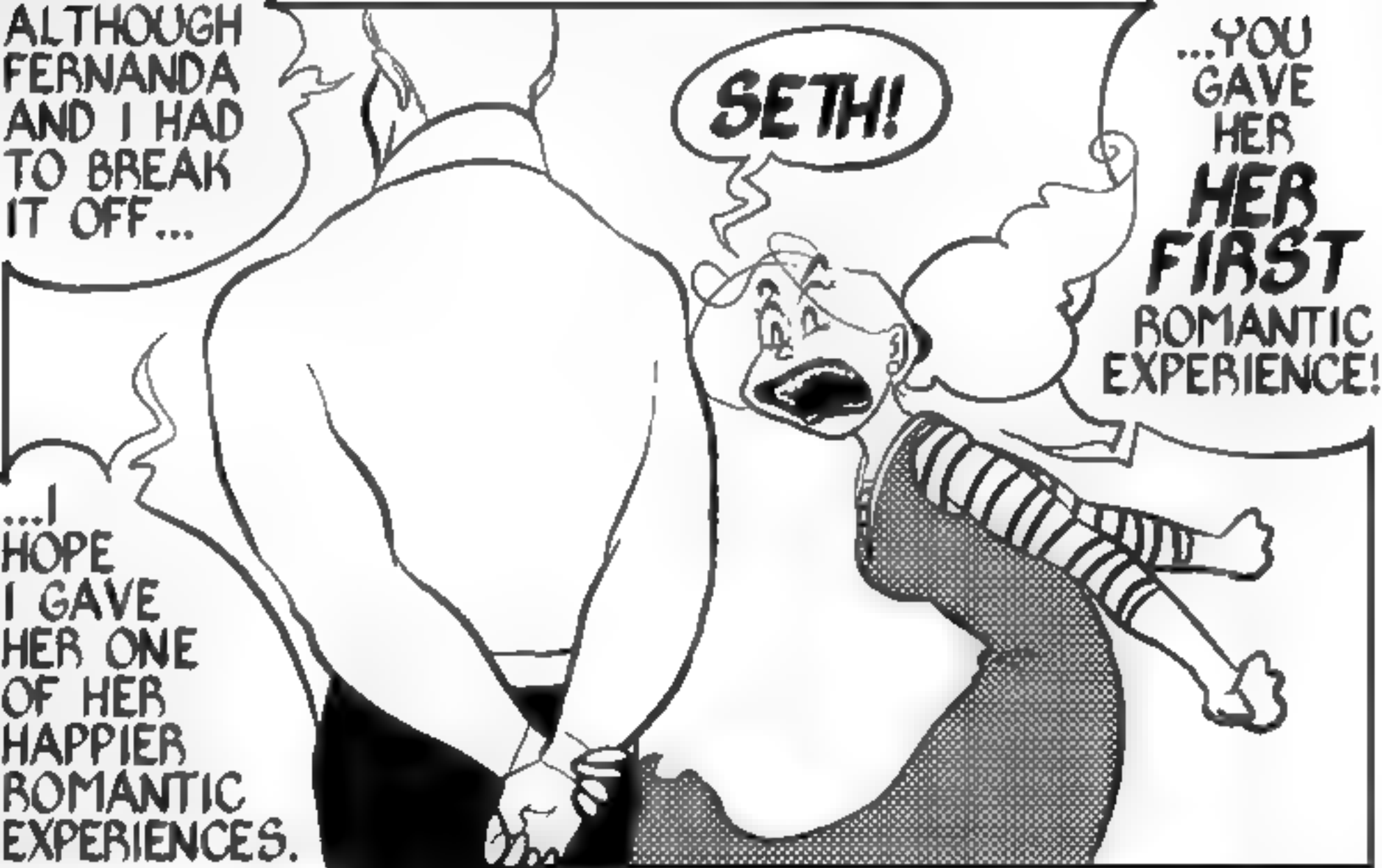
Bankew



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OKAY, SO WHAT EXACTLY
DID FERNANDA SAY TO YOU?

SHE NEVER EVEN
DATED A MAN BEFORE...
...NEVER HELD HANDS...
...ADMINISTERED A
KISS ON THE CHEEK,
AN EMBRACE IN
THE MOONLIGHT...
...IN SHORT...



...NO BAMMO!

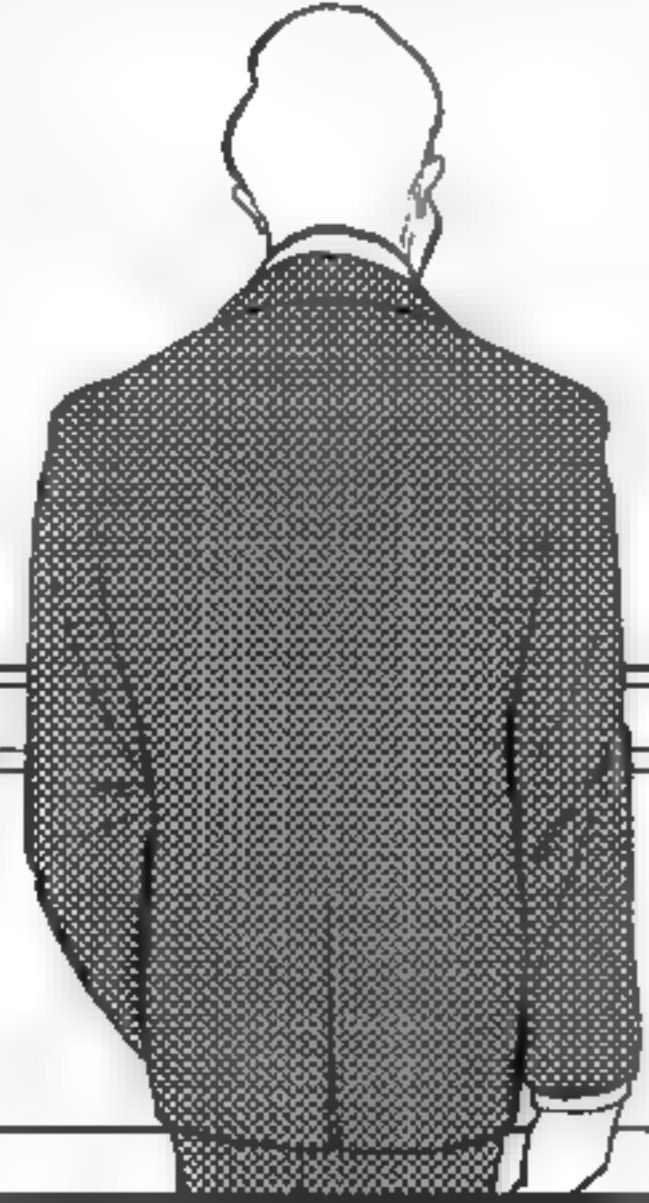


IN OTHER WORDS, I PLUCKED
THE FLOWER OF HER SWEET
MAIDENHEAD.



WHY
DO YOU
ALWAYS
HAVE
TO PUT
MY
WORDS
IN OTHER
WORDS?

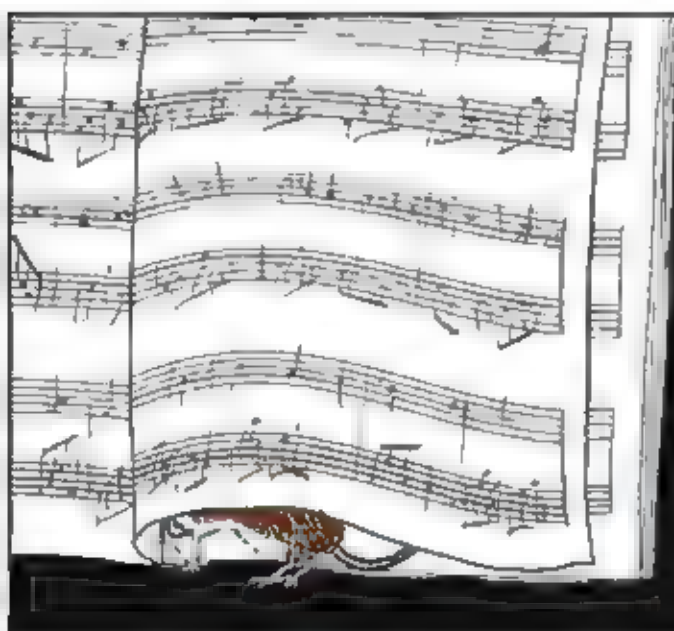
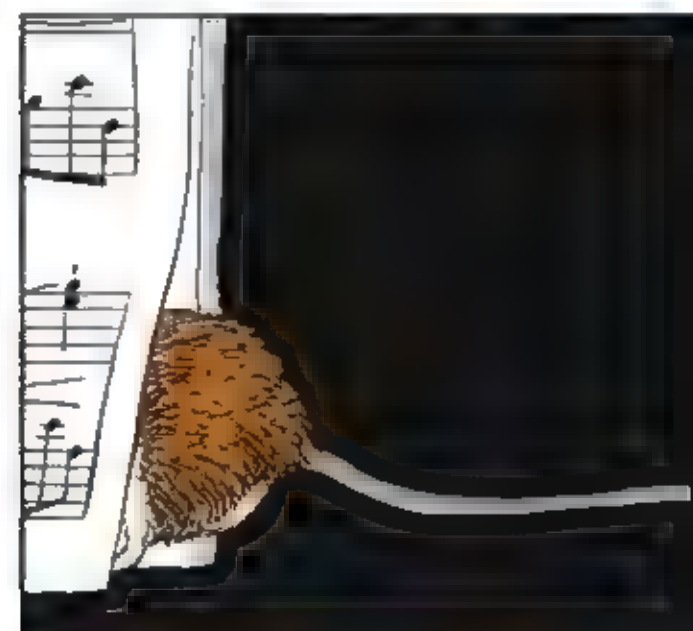
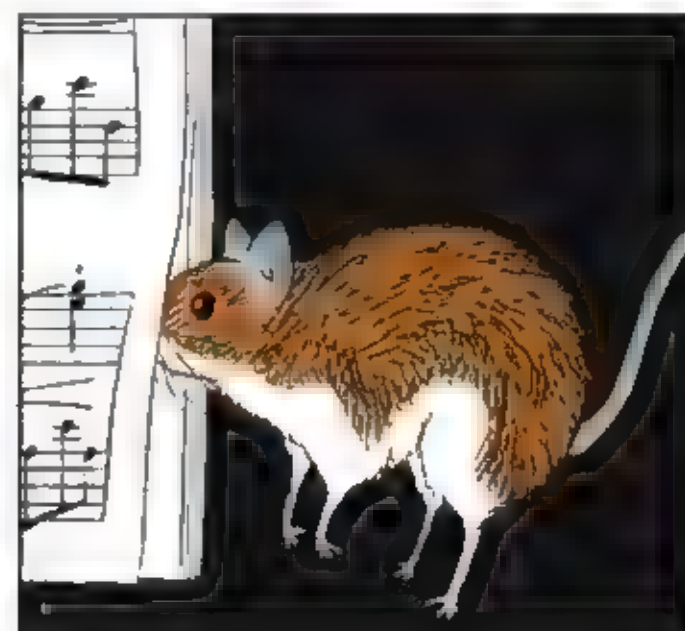
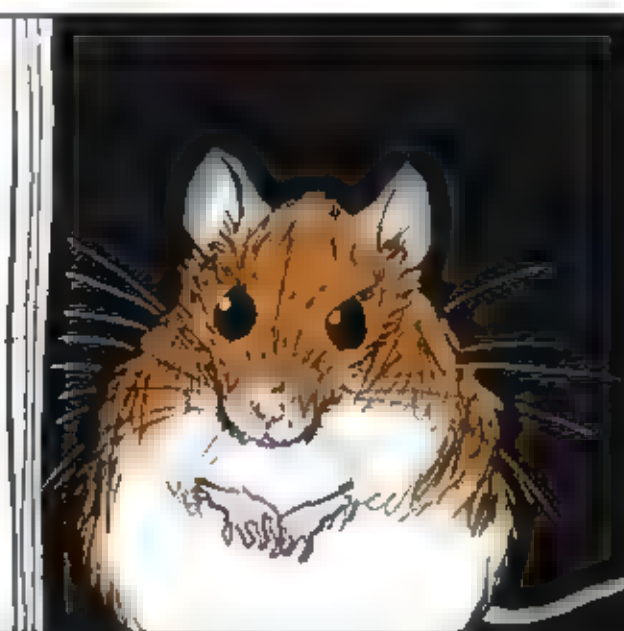
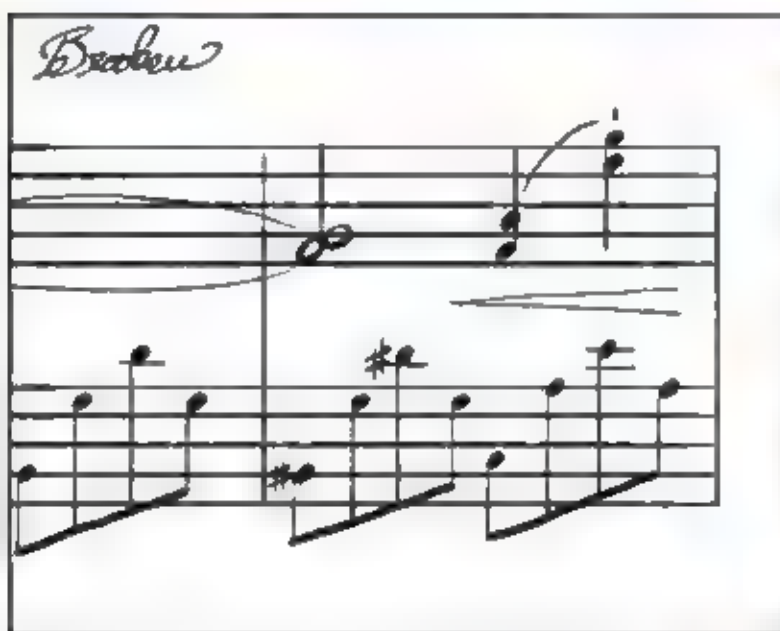
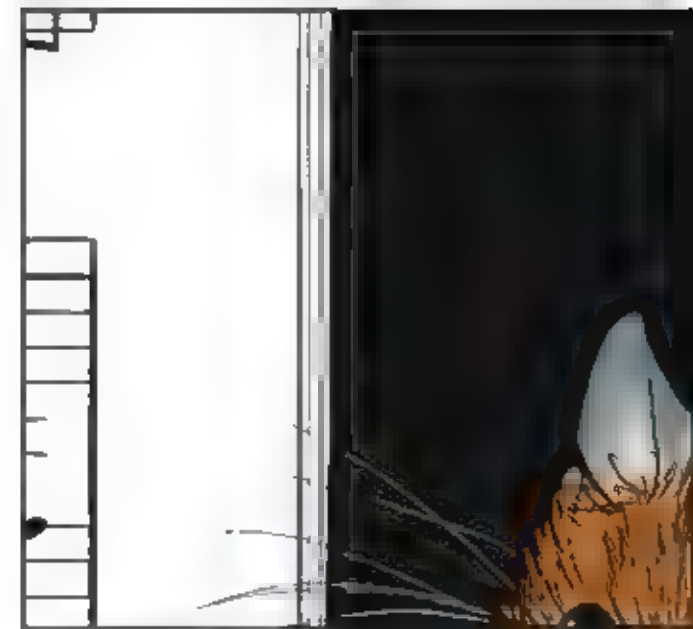
7-4 600118 out to library is a Universal Audio by J.S. & Co



7-2

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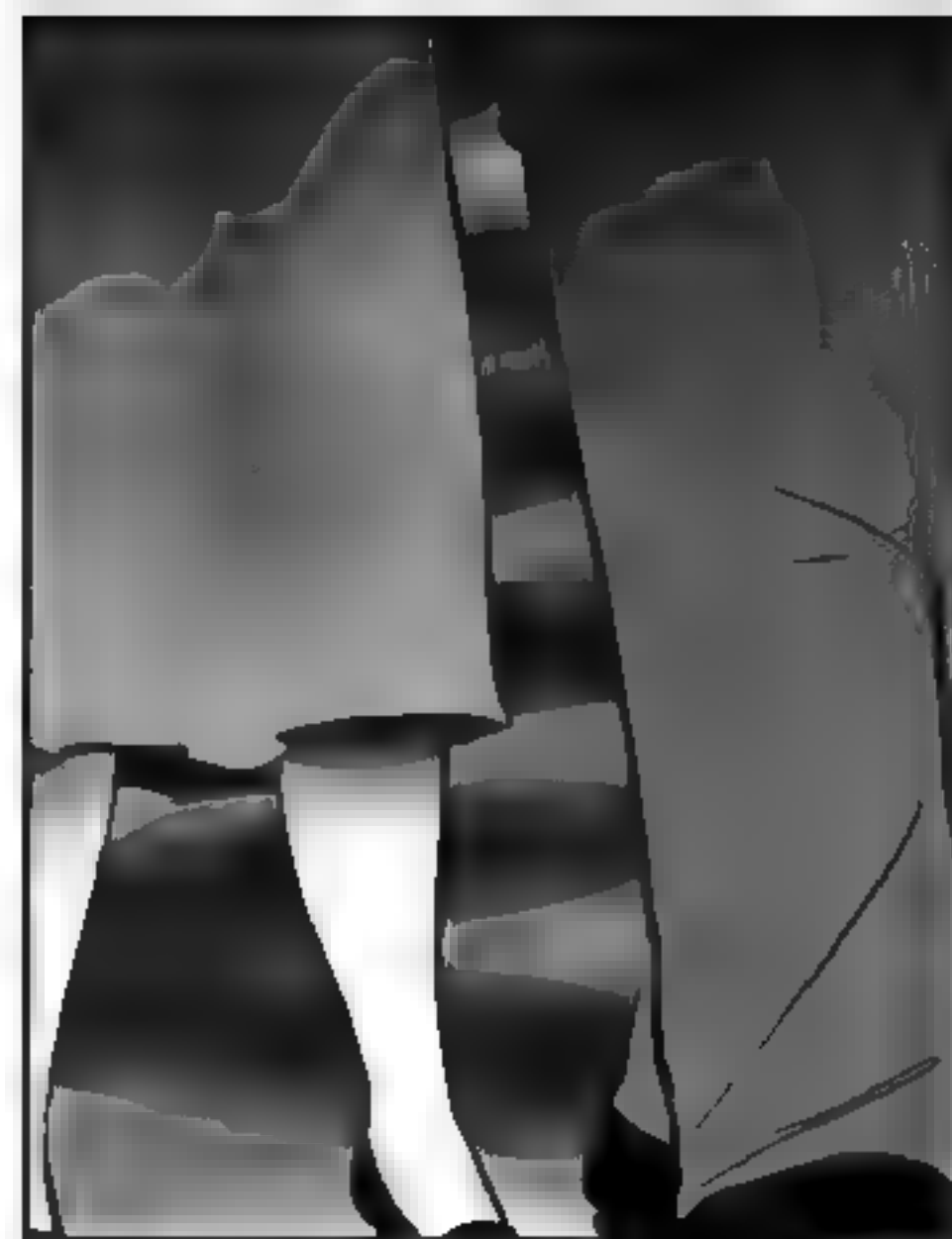


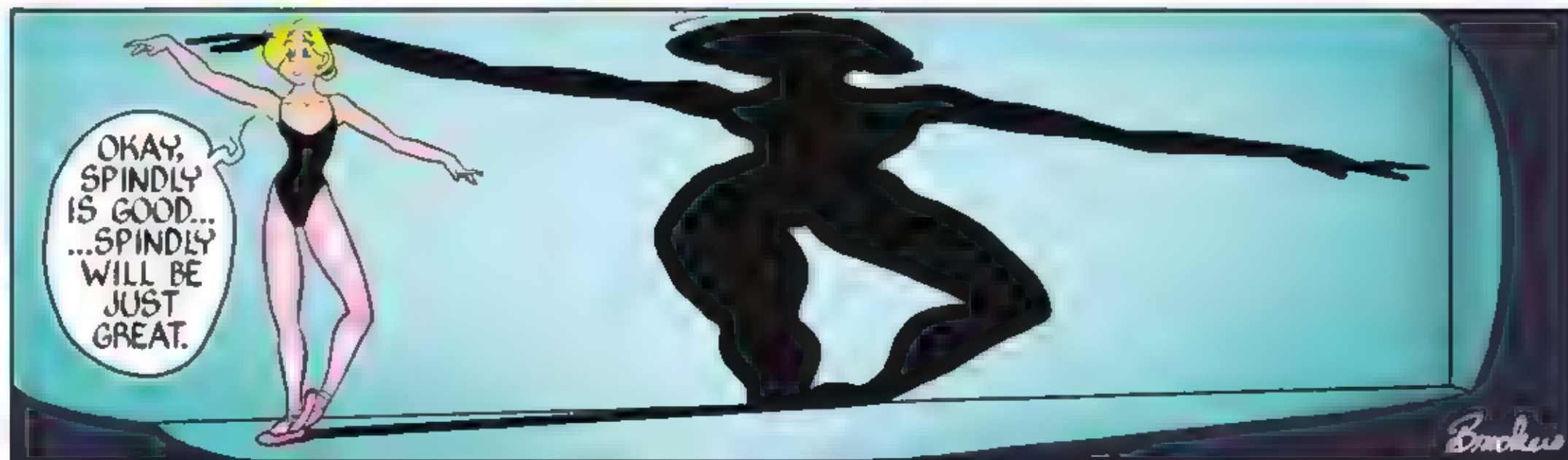
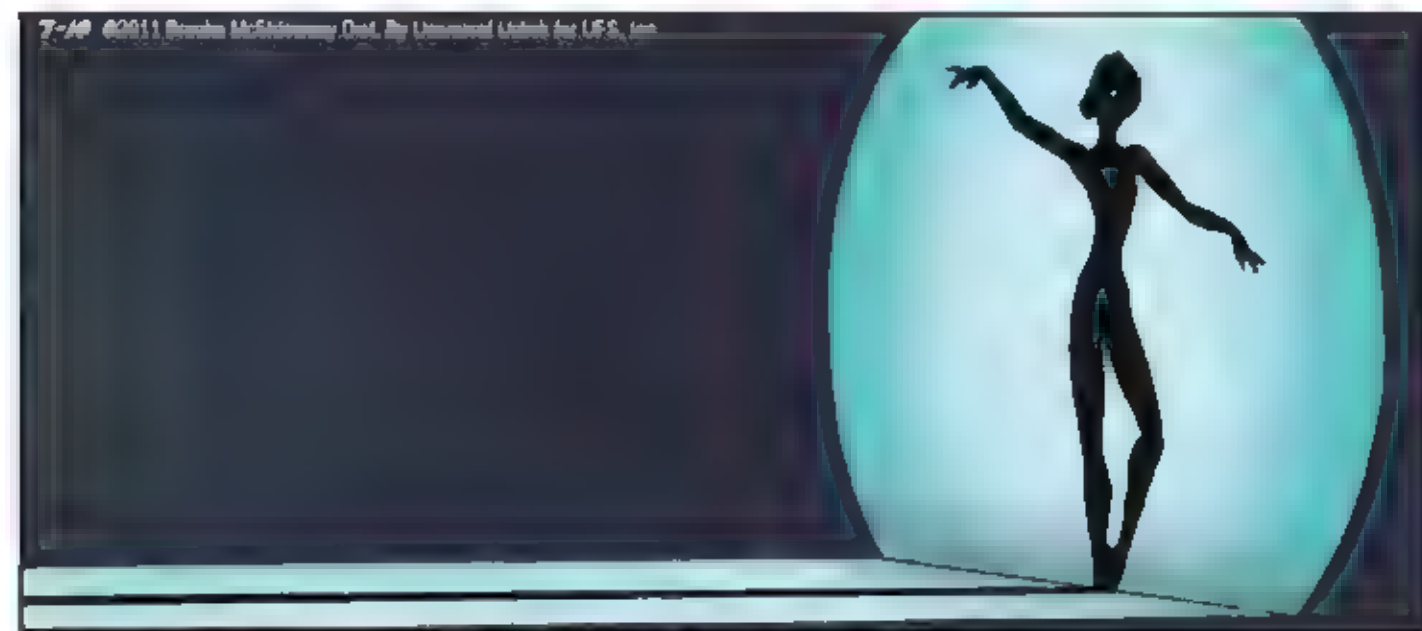
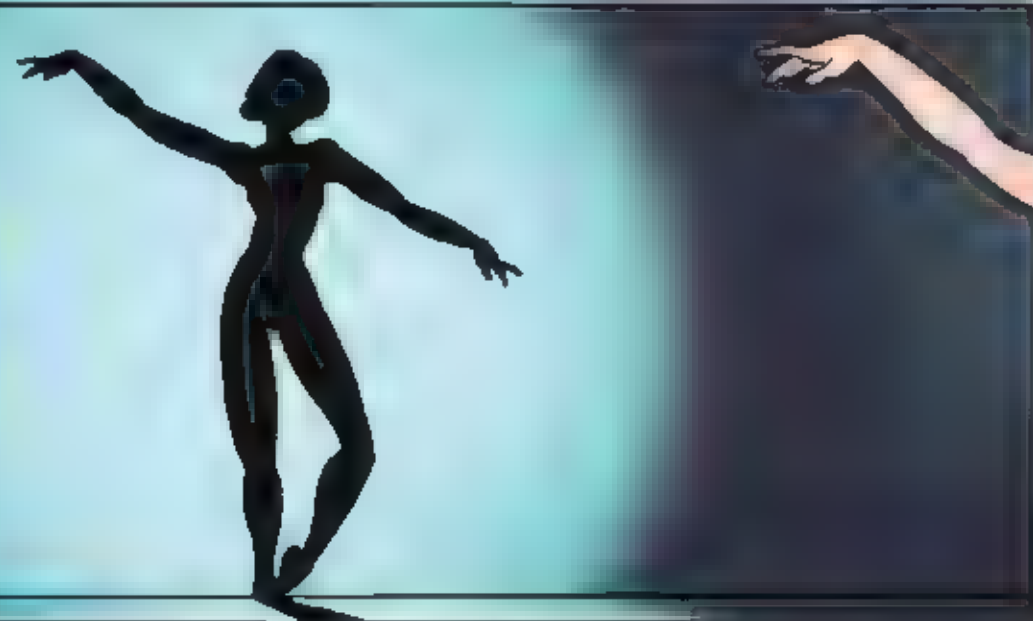


















SETH JUST FELT HE USED
YOU TO QUENCH SOME
SORT OF BASE DESIRE...
AND HAVING DONE SO,
THAT HE MUST ACT IN
ACCORDANCE
WITH THE
RULES OF
CHIVALRY.



Brooke

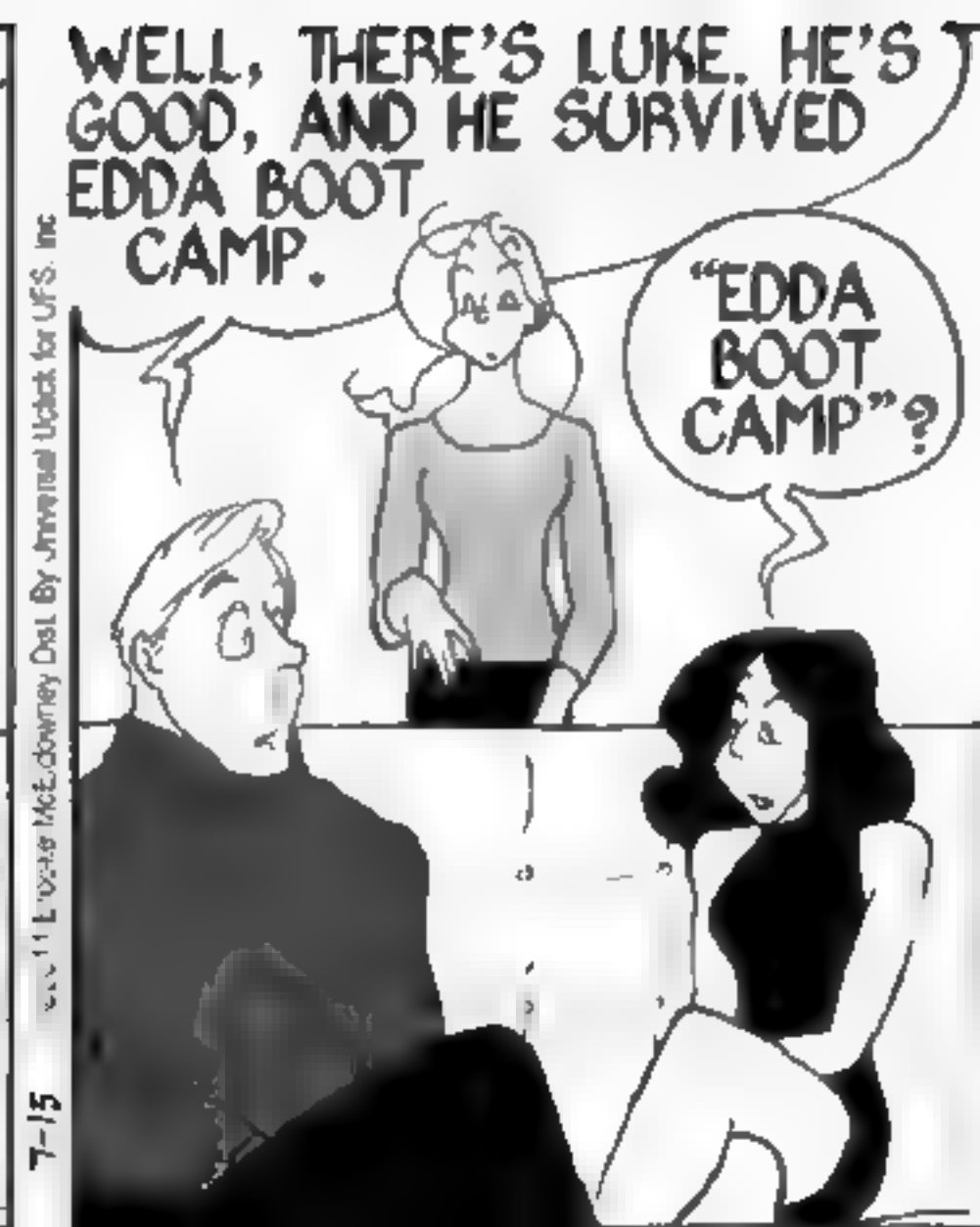
I DON'T KNOW
WHERE HE GOT THE IDEA
THAT I SHOULD BE TIED
DOWN TO A MARRIAGE
JUST TO APPEASE HIS
MEDIEVAL SENSE OF
HONOR. ...ON THE OTHER
HAND, MY FATHER'S
VIEWS ARE MUCH MORE
IN ACCORD WITH SETH'S.
IN FACT, IF PAPA
EVER LEARNED WHAT WE
HAD BEEN DOING, SETH'S
CORPSE WOULD BE
FLOATING DOWN THE
EAST RIVER WITHIN
THE DAY.

WHAT CAN I SAY?
...I'M JUST
DADDY'S
LITTLE
PRINCESS.



MAN, YOU DODGED
A BULLET. ...AND I REALLY
PREFER THAT EXPRESSION
WHEN IT'S JUST A
METAPHOR.

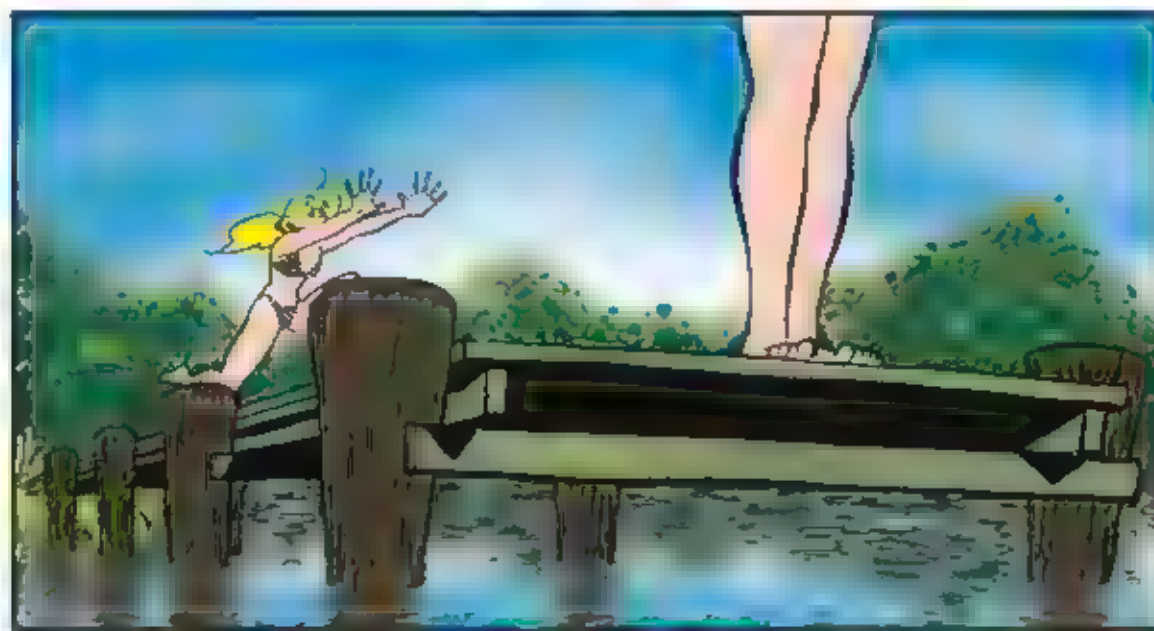
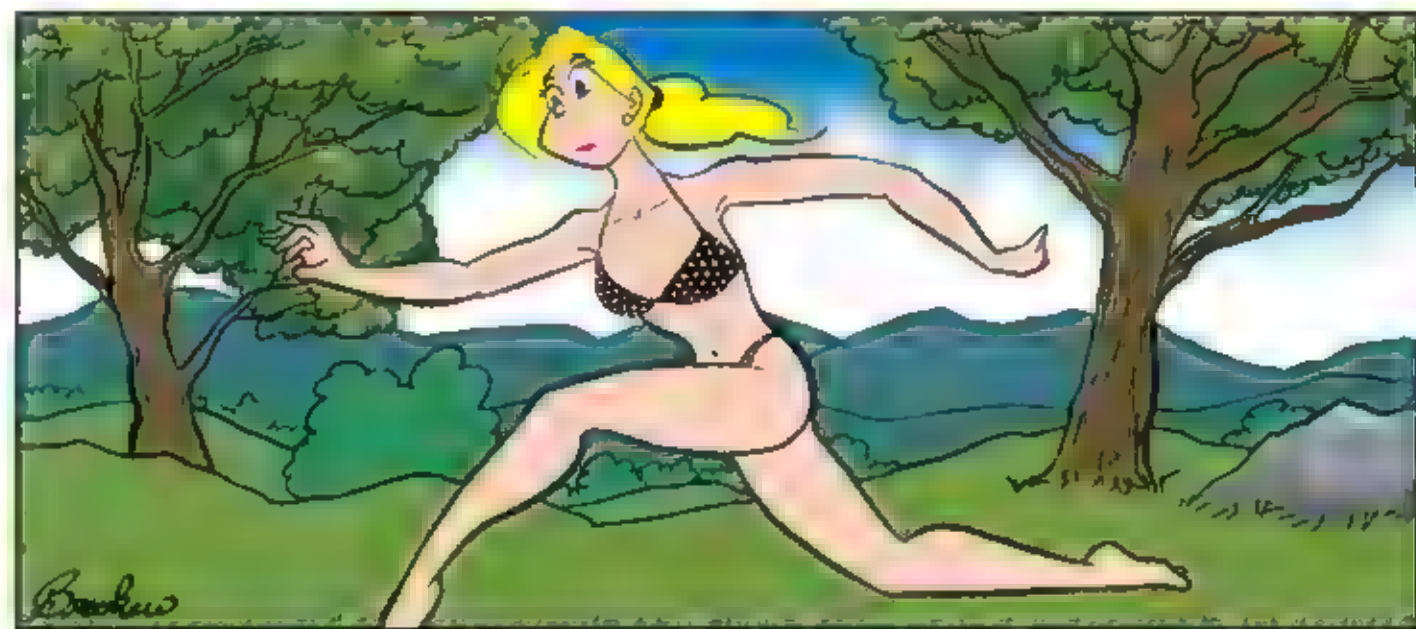
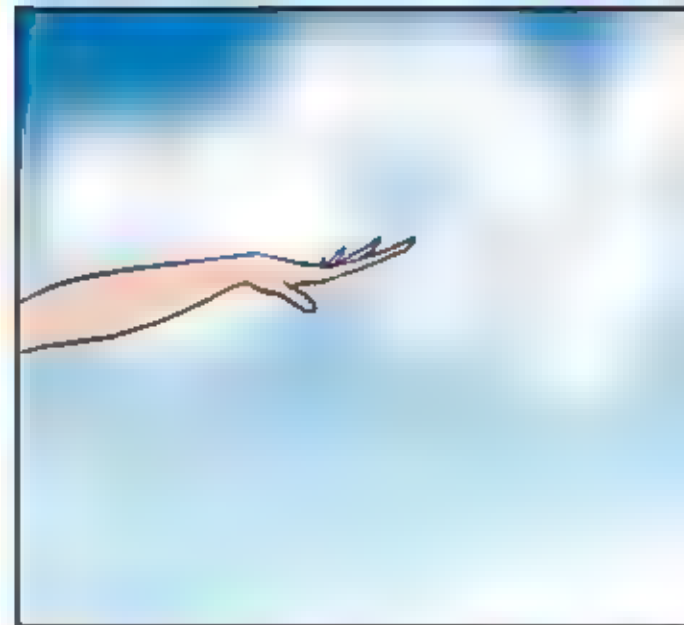
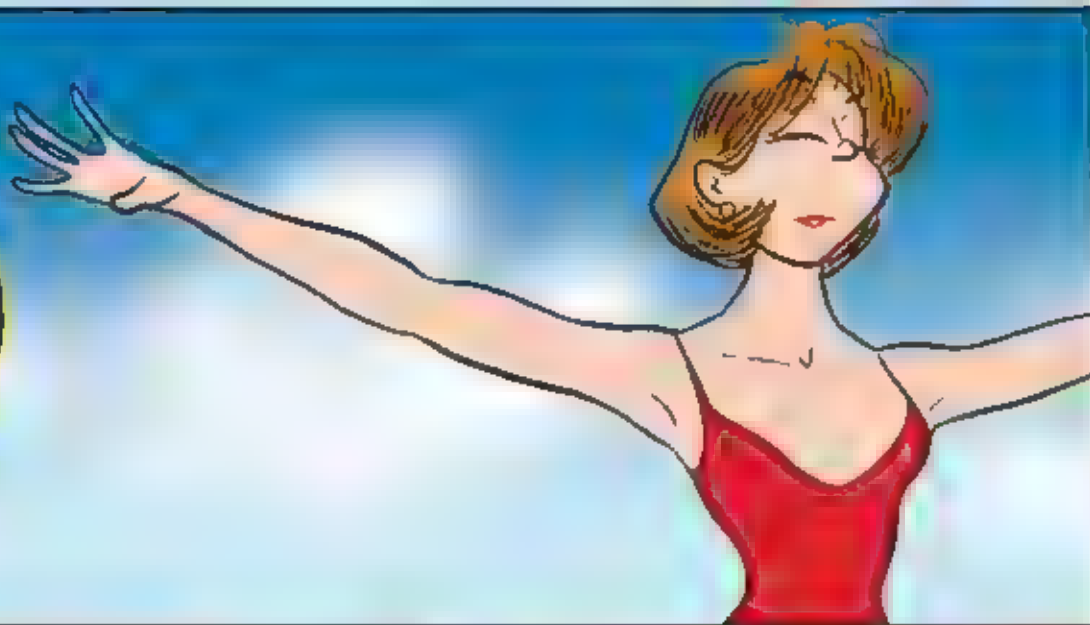




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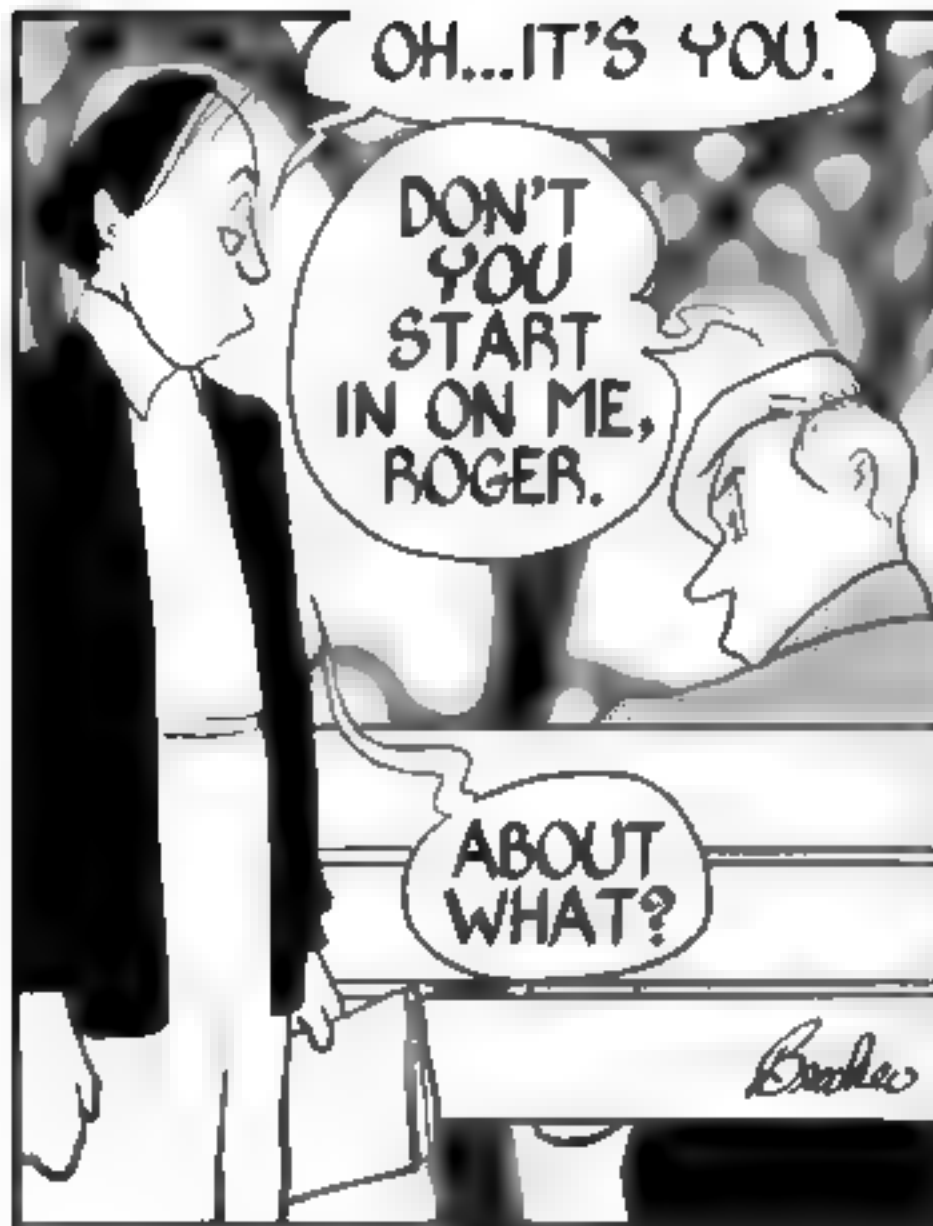
Barber





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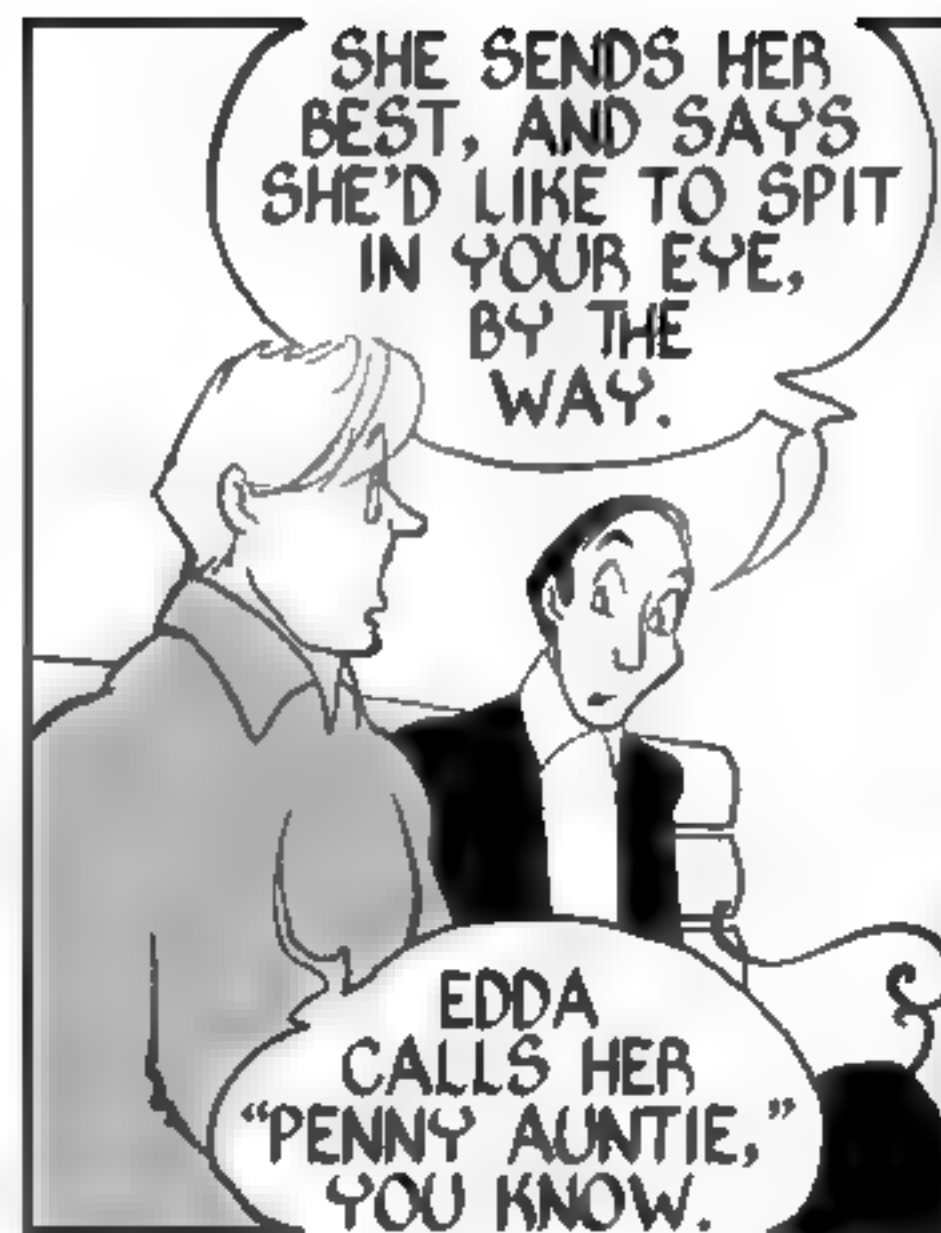
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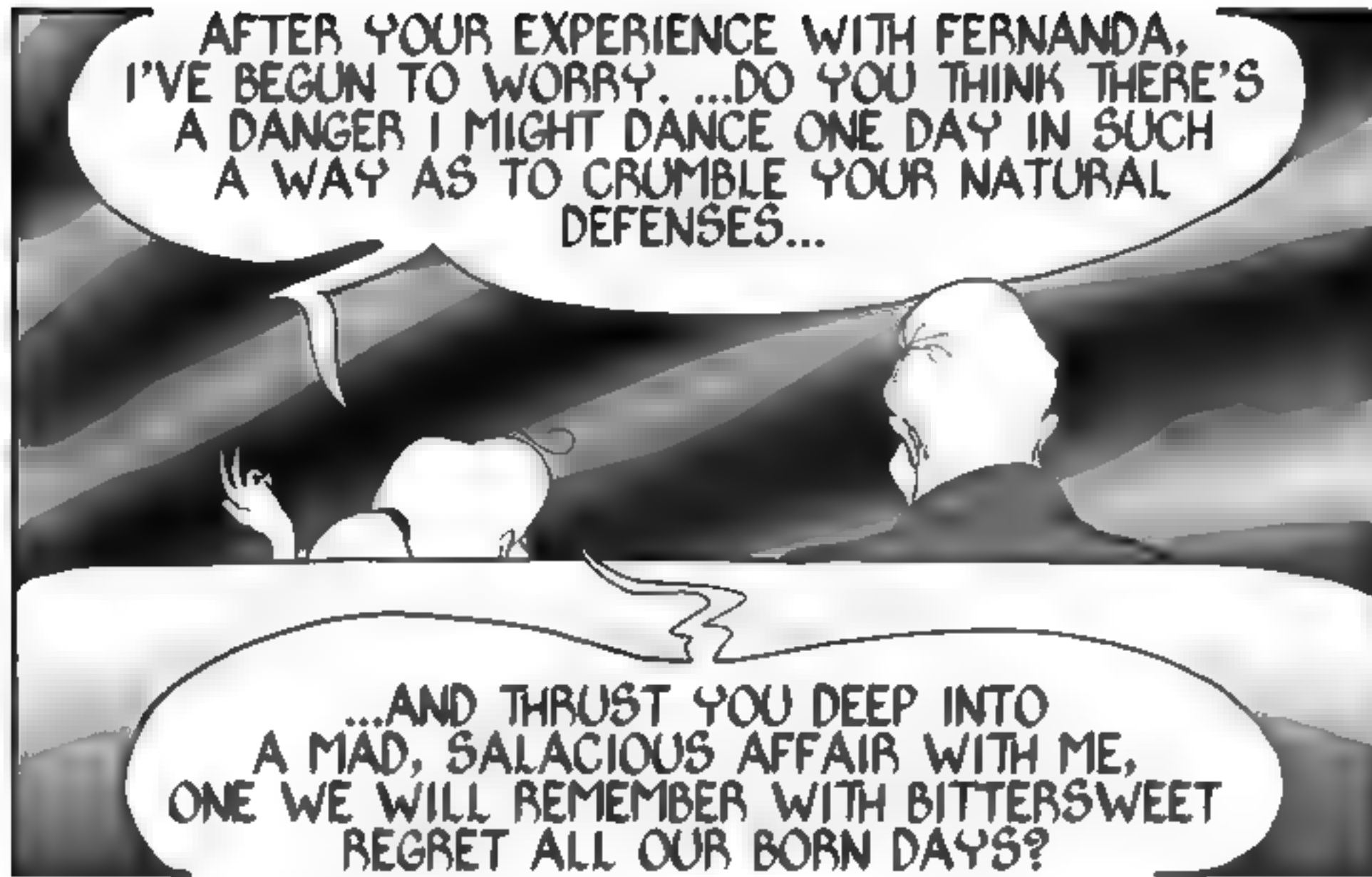
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7-18









THE WAY MEN IN THE STREET
ARE EYEING YOU CONNOTES
THAT YOU ARE PROVIDING
YOUR USUAL VISUAL
STIMULUS.



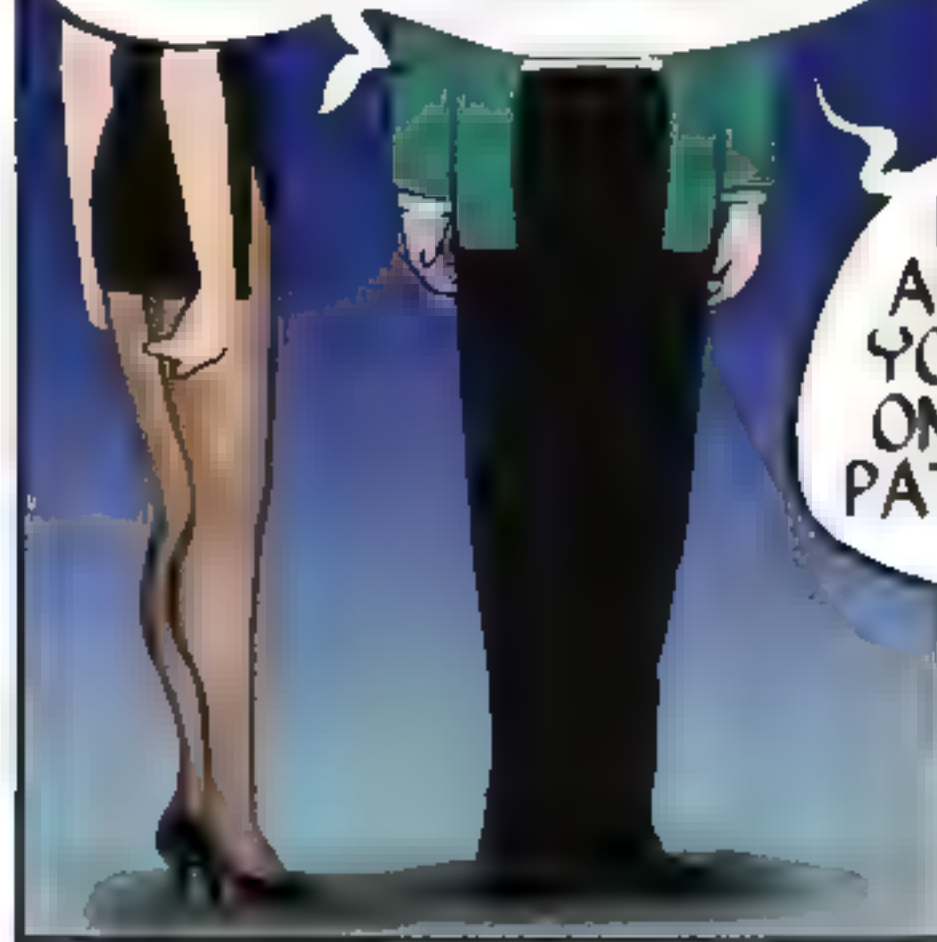
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7-22

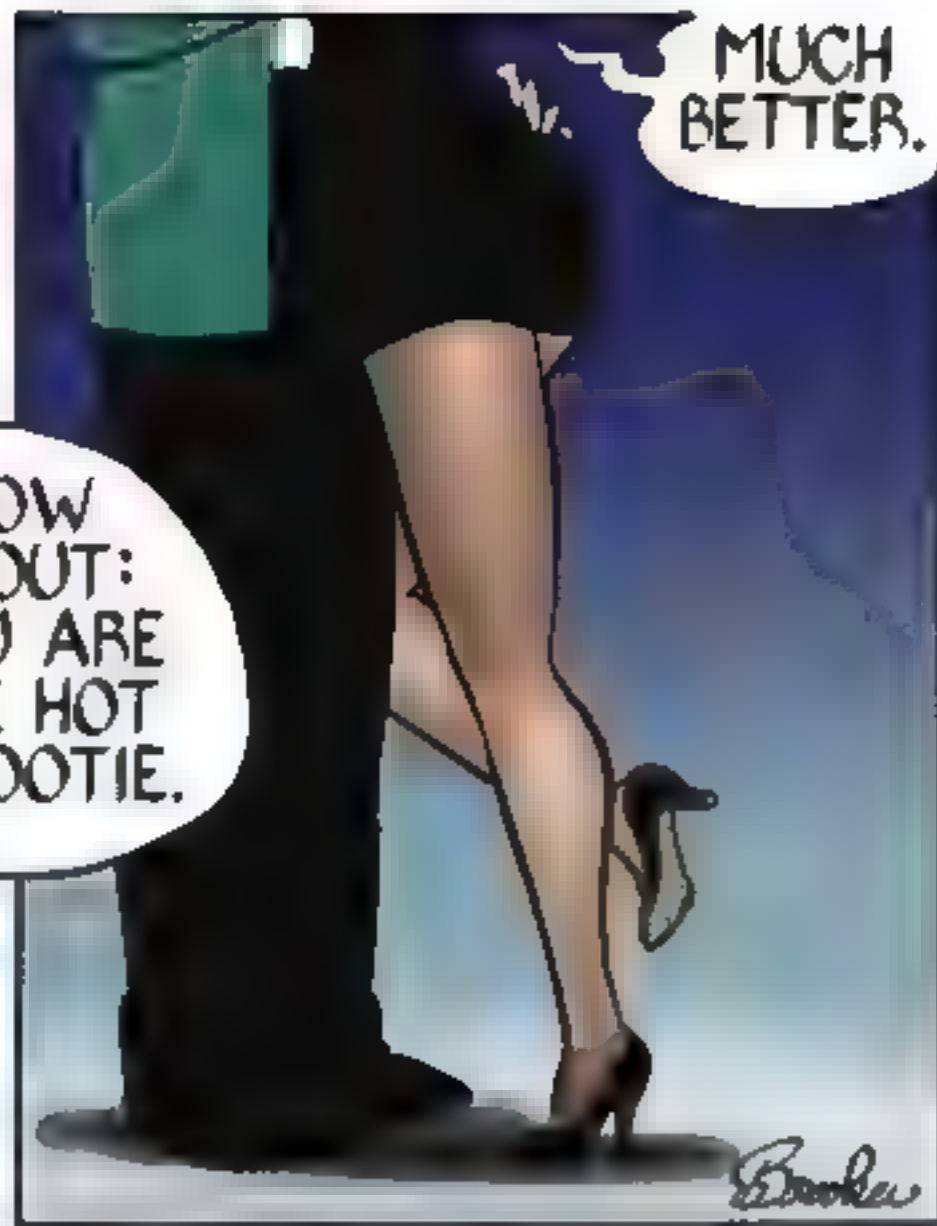
THAT, IN TURN, FILLS ME
WITH THE DESIRE TO SMITE
THEM AND LEAVE THEIR
ROTTING CORPSES TO THE
PREDATION OF CROWS.



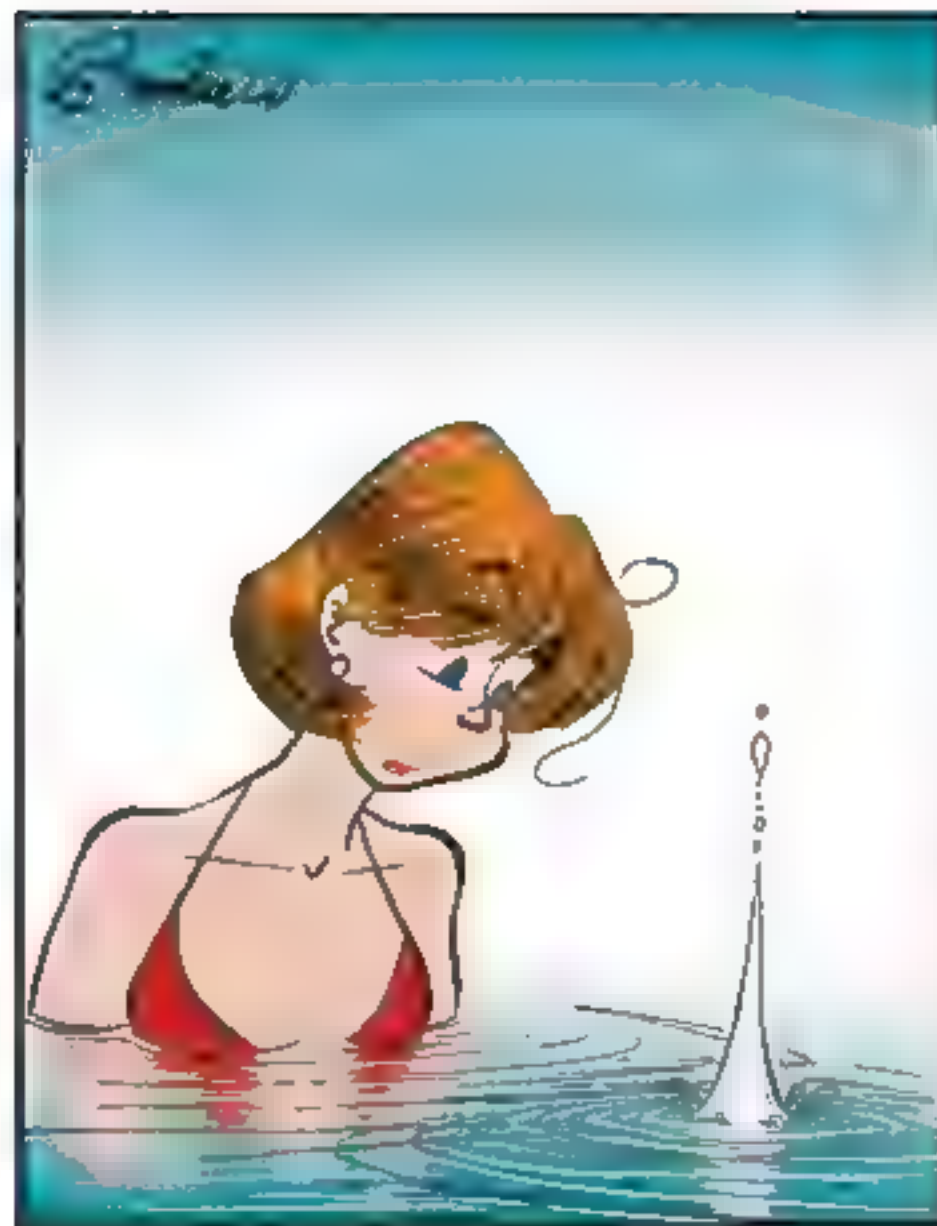
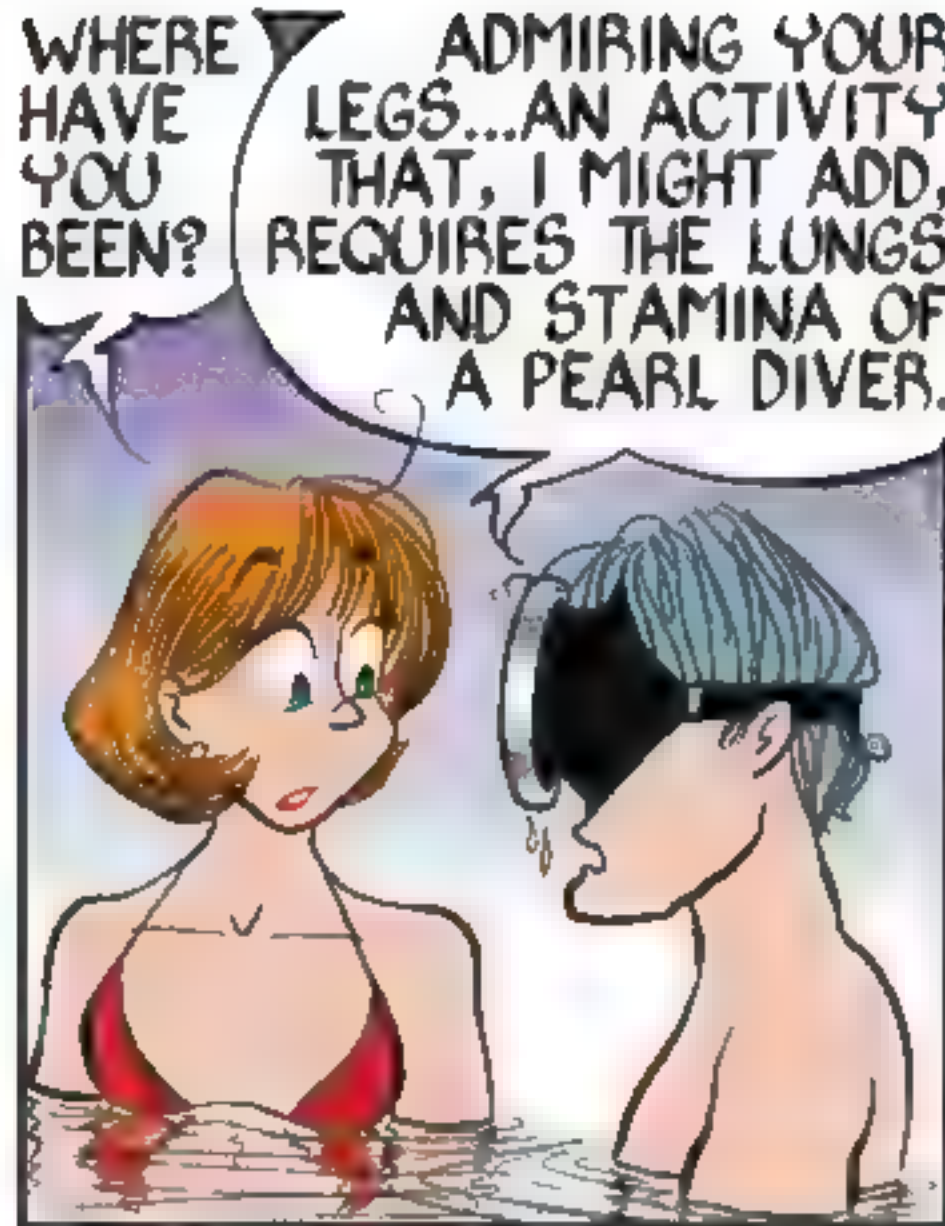
WOULD THERE BE A WAY TO
COMPLIMENT MY LOOKS
WITHOUT REFERRING TO
ROTTING CORPSES?



HOW
ABOUT:
YOU ARE
ONE HOT
PATOOTIE.



MUCH
BETTER.



9 CHICKWEED LANE

®

Grrrrrr

I HAVE YET
TO ACHIEVE YOUR
MASTERY. I STRUGGLE
WITH THE CONCEPT,
AND I THINK I HAVE
IT DOWN, BUT THE
DEVIL IS IN THE
DETAILS.

THE POINT
IS, I'VE
COME
TO
RELY
ON
YOU
TO DO
THIS
FOR ME.
YOU
CAN'T
LET ME
DOWN.

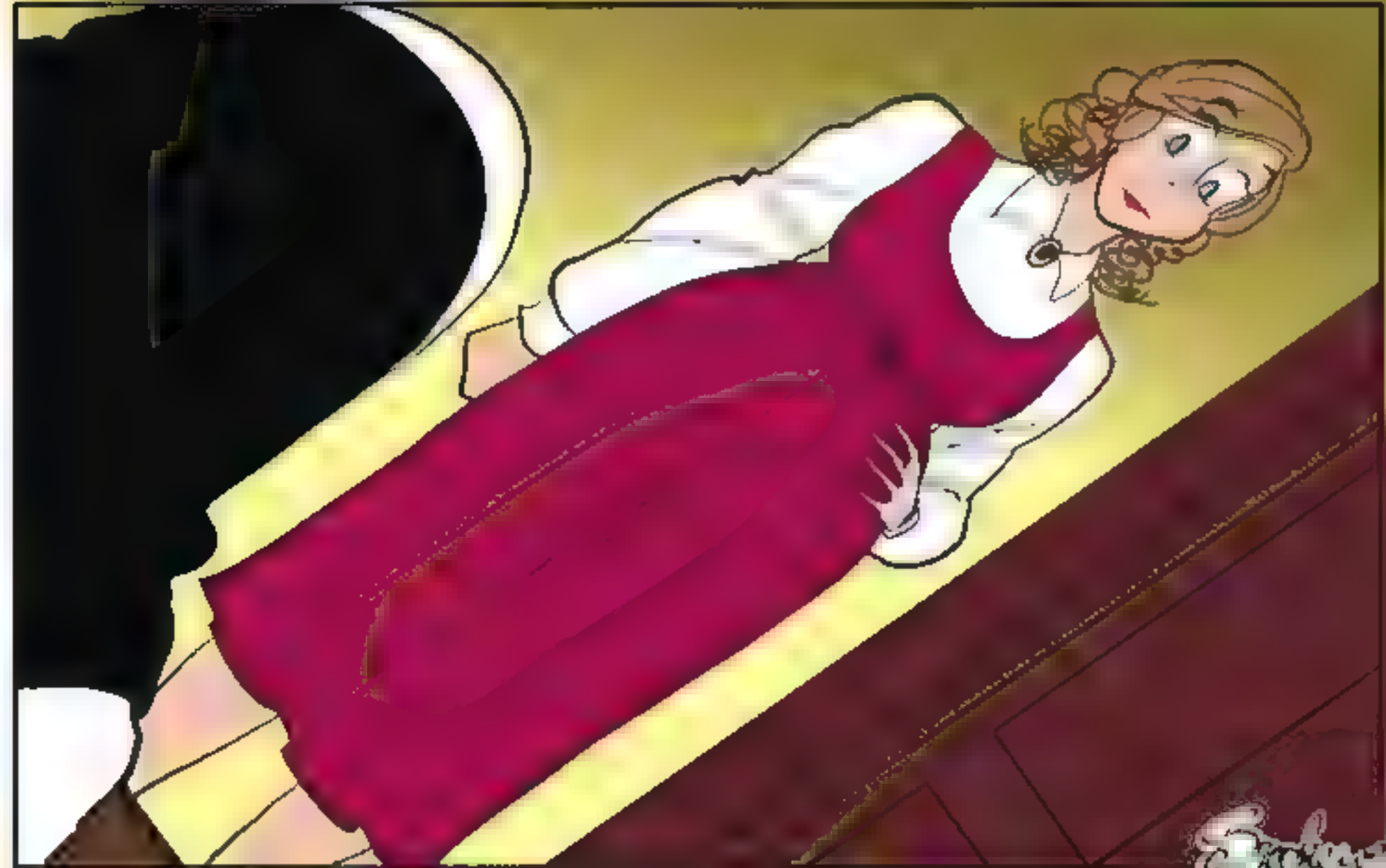
YOU CAN'T JUST
SIT BACK LIKE
THAT AND
ALLOW ME
TO FALTER.

WE ARE
PARTNERS.
WE WATCH
EACH
OTHER'S
BACKS.
...OR
HAVE I
MIS-
JUDGED
YOU?

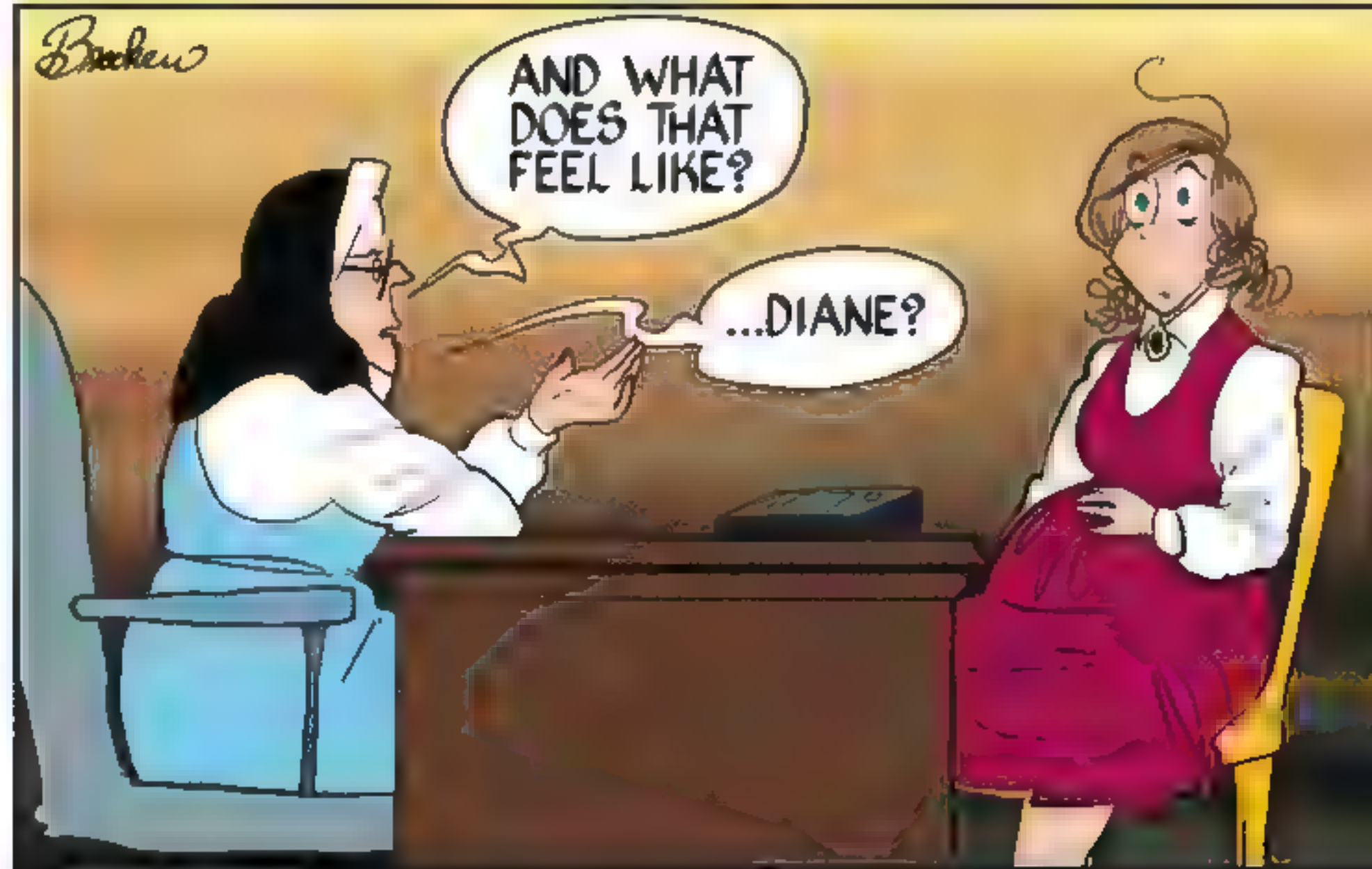
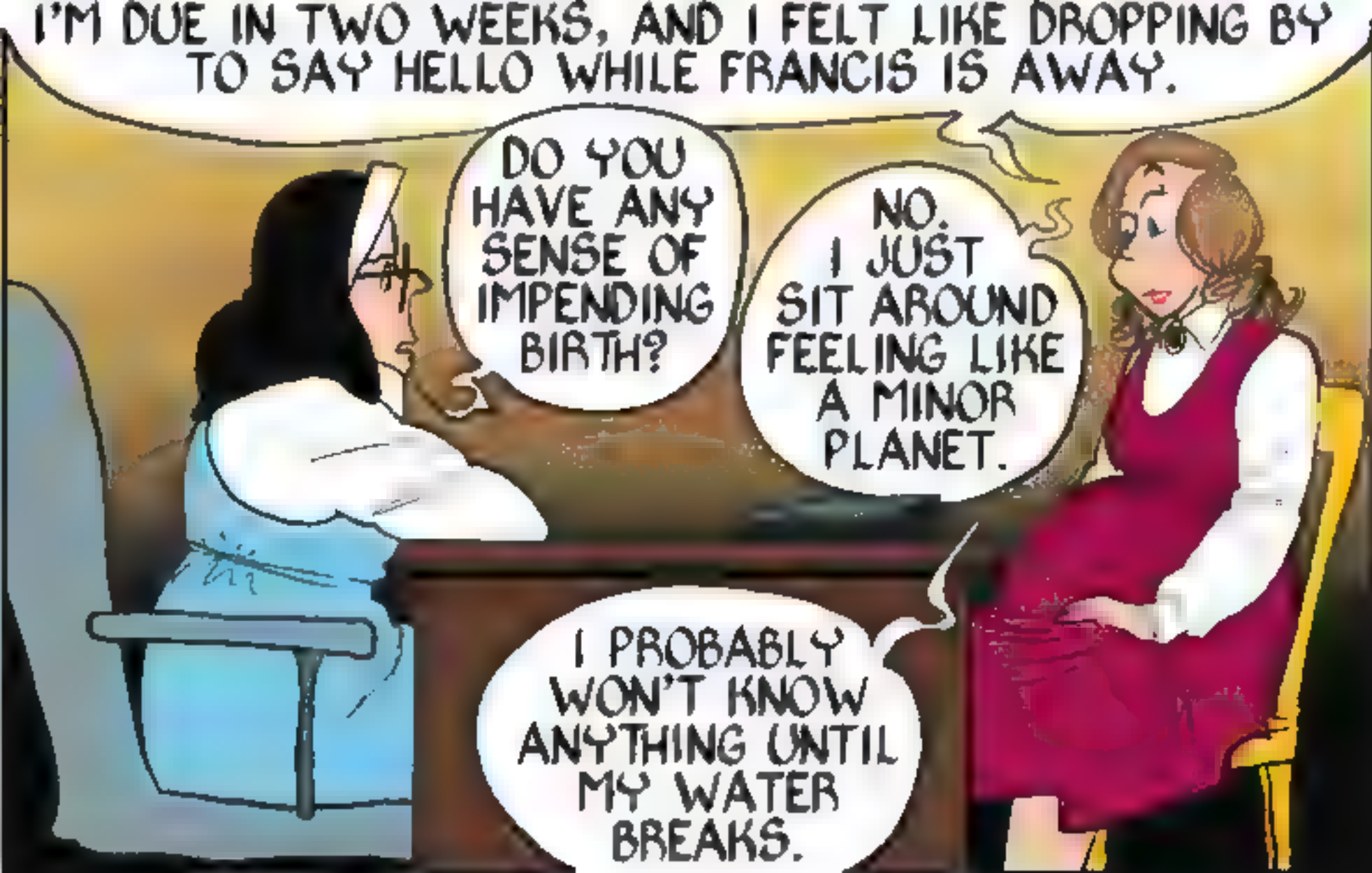
EXCUSE ME...
...UNCLAD CHICK
IN HER BATH!

EXCUSE ME...GAY MAN
WITH BOW TIE ISSUES!
WHERE ARE YOUR PRIORITIES?!

Brooke



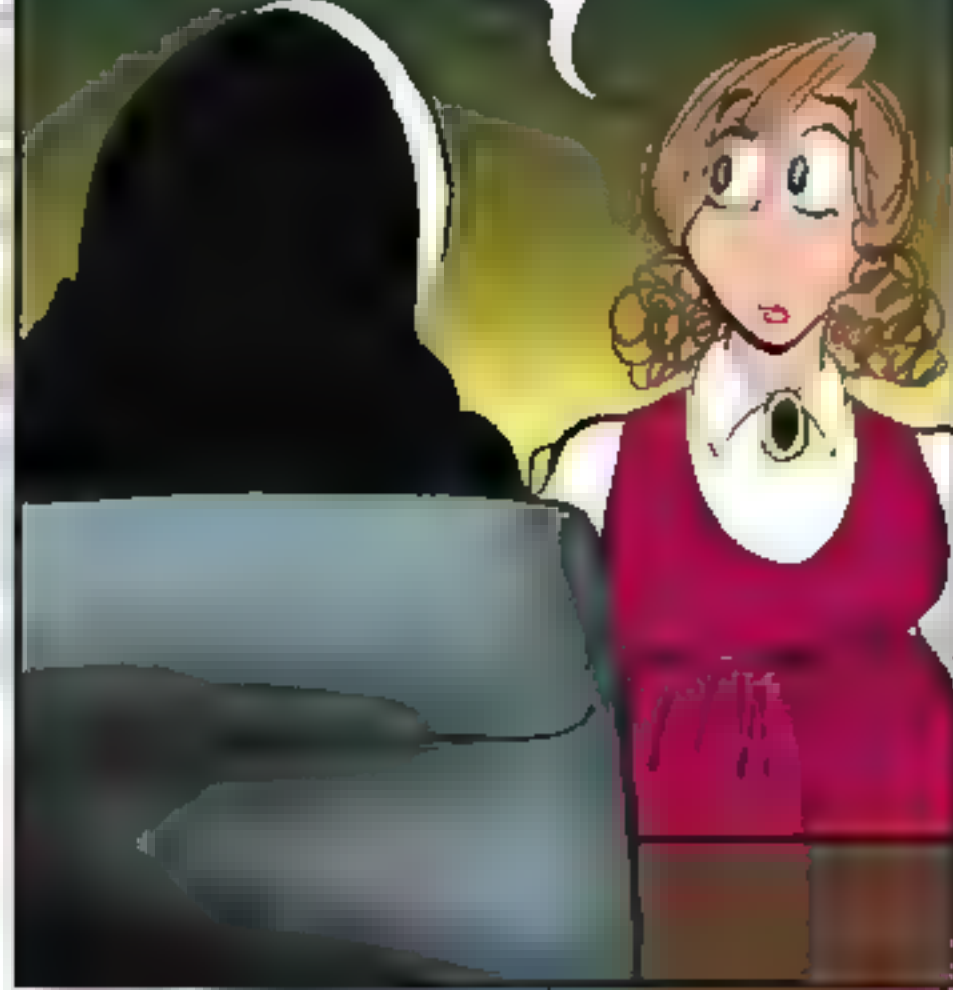




IT BEING MY FIRST
PREGNANCY, I WAS GOING
TO SAY I DON'T KNOW
WHAT IT'S
LIKE...



...TO BREAK
WATER.



...BUT
NOW
I DO.



MONSIGNOR BRADY
IS HERE FOR
HIS ELEVEN
O'CLOCK,
SISTER
STEVEN.

BUZZ OFF, MONSIGNOR.
ONE OF MY NUNS IS
GIVING BIRTH!

I'M...
...I'M
SORRY?



WHAT PART OF "BUZZ OFF,
MONSIGNOR. ONE
OF MY NUNS IS
GIVING BIRTH!"
DON'T YOU
UNDERSTAND?

JUST
ABOUT
ALL OF
IT.

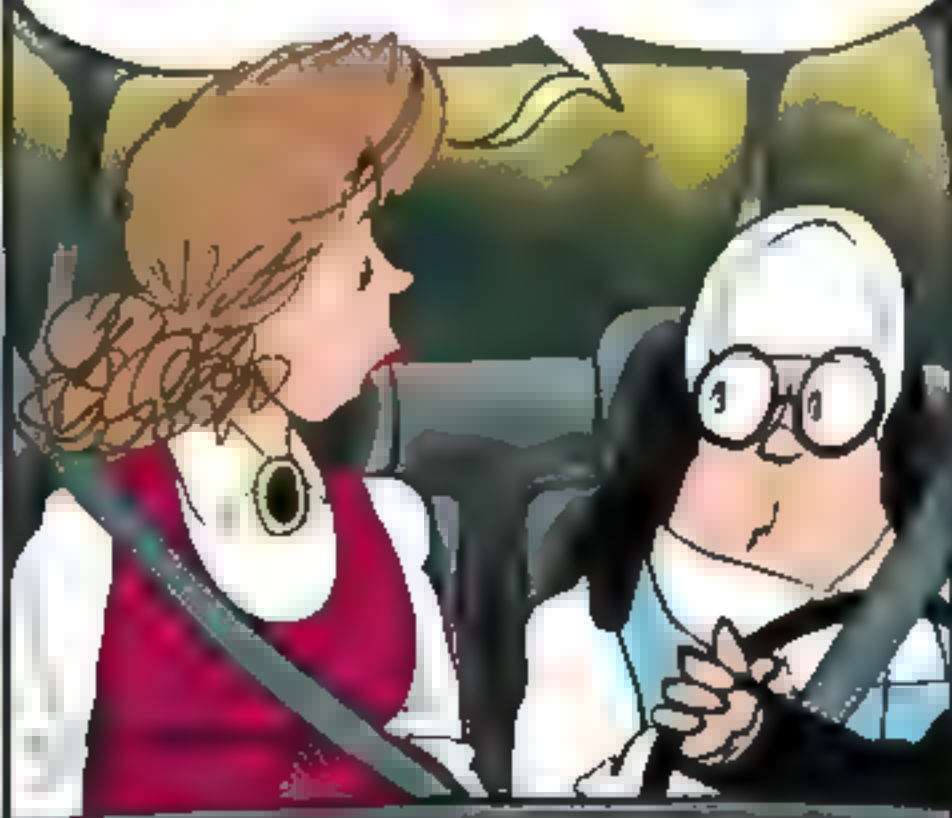


GIVE HIM AN EIGHTH GRADE
BIO BOOK AND A
COOKIE, AND STICK
HIM IN DETENTION
TILL I'M BACK.

YES,
SISTER.

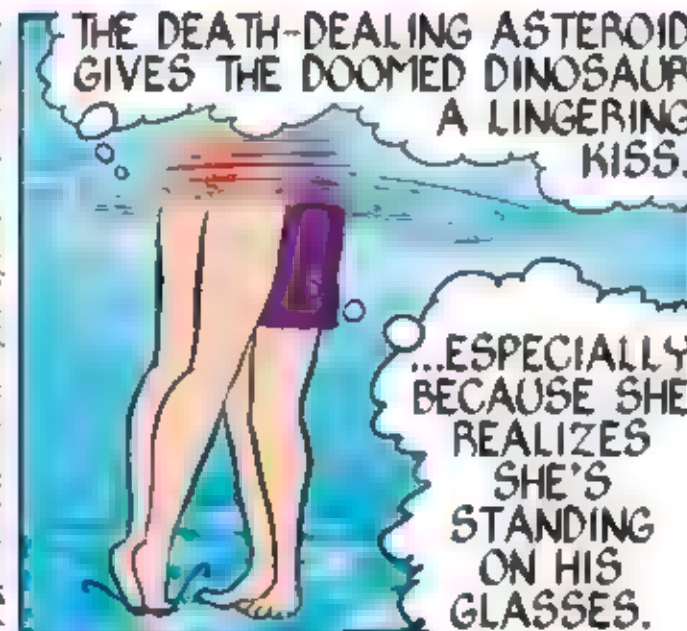
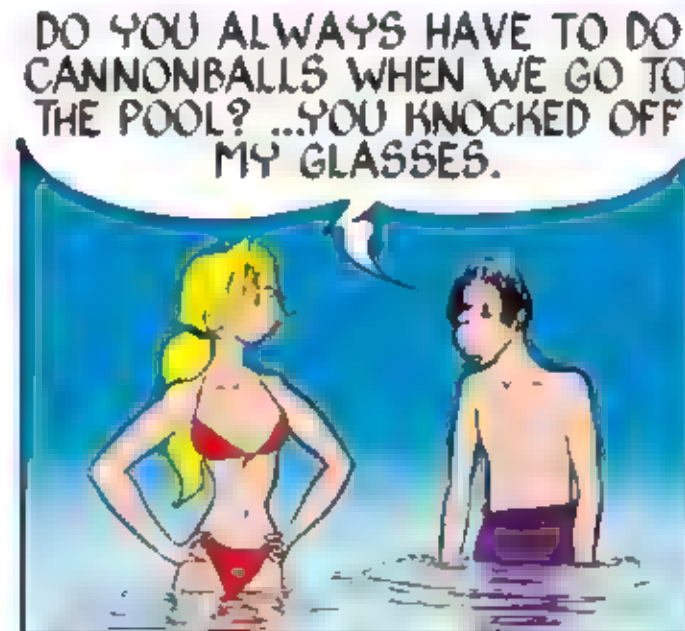
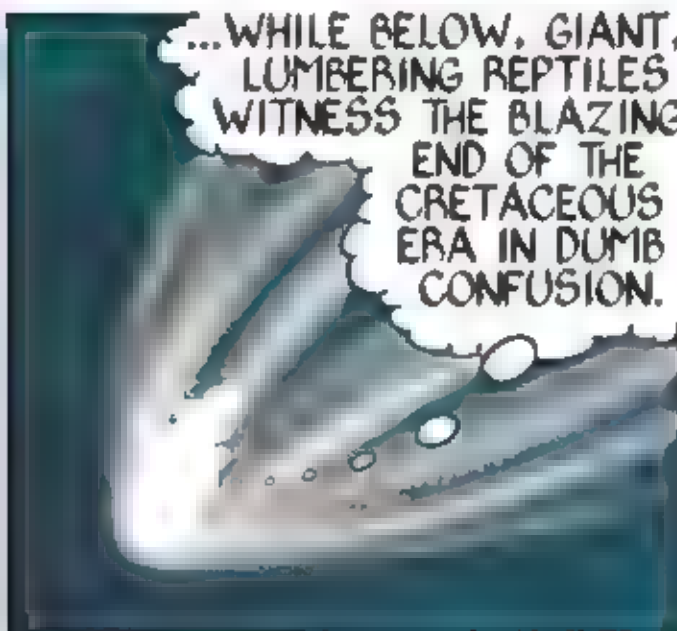
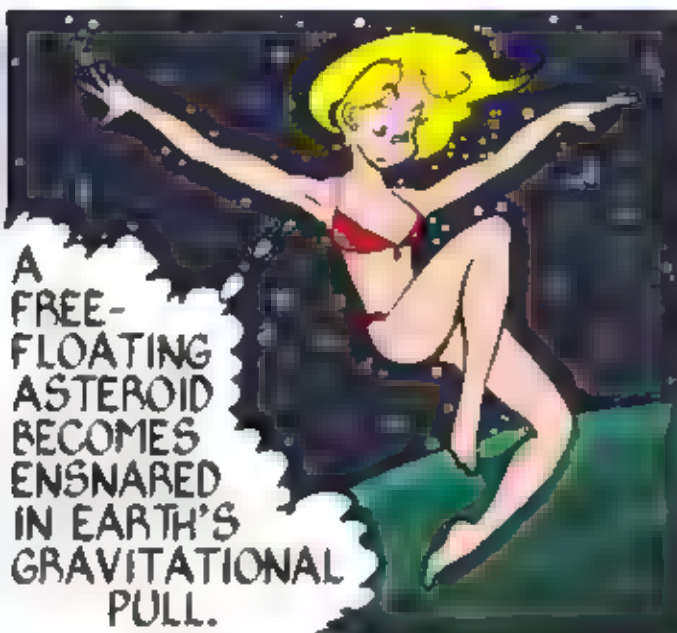


YOU DON'T HAVE TO RUSH.
...THEY SAY LABOR DURING
THE FIRST PREGNANCY IS
OFTEN SLOW TO GET
UNDER WAY. THEY SAY...



7-30









I'M SORRY...I'M NOT GOING
IN YOUR DIRECTION...

YOU
ARE
NOW.

NO,
REALLY...

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8-3

I SAID...

...GET
IN!

Broken

SHE HAS
SCARY
EYES.

I REALLY DON'T WANT HIM
HERE. THE LAST TIME I SAW
HIM, HE WAS SAYING MY
FIRST BORN WOULD BE A
SENTIENT COCKROACH.

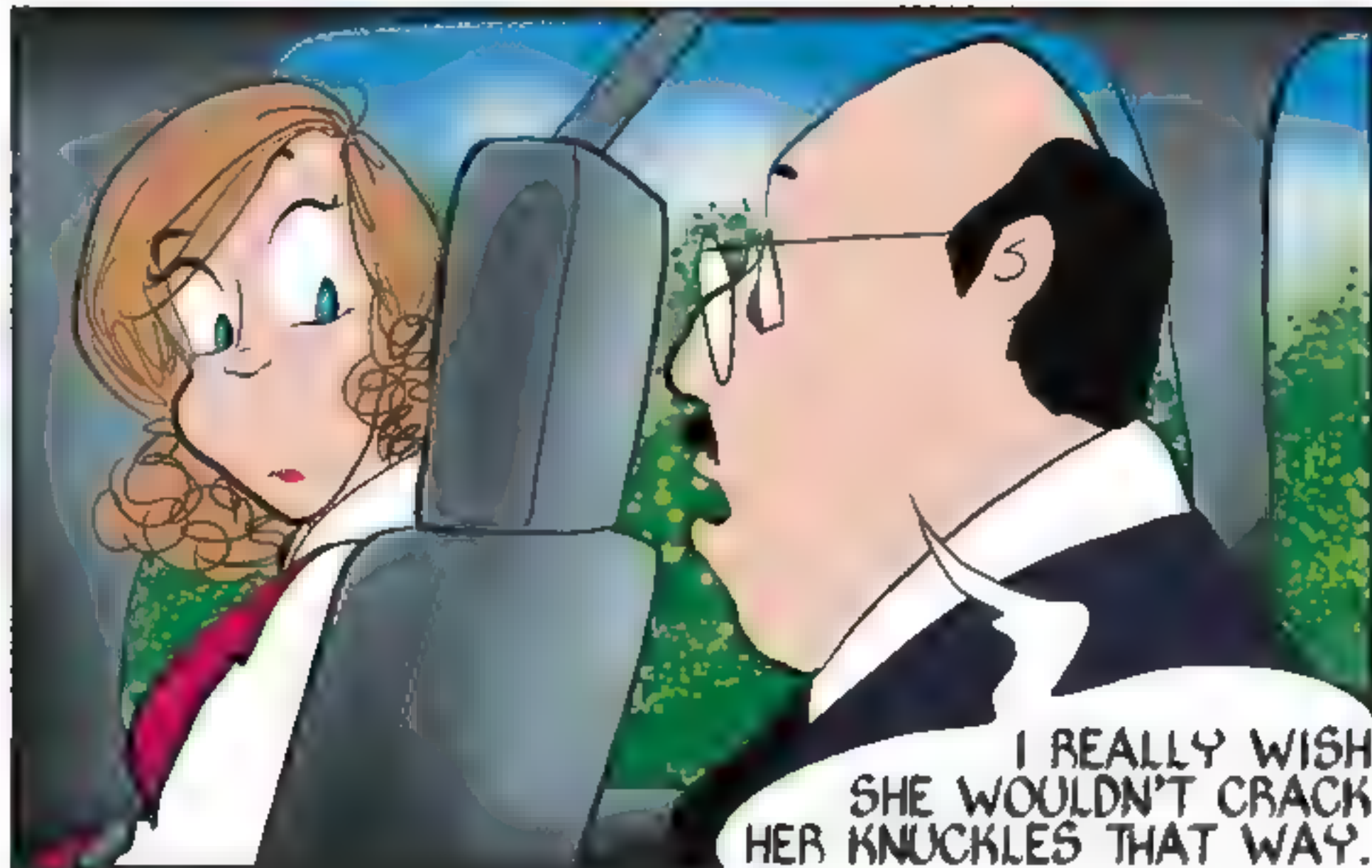


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THAT'S PRECISELY WHY
HE'S COMING...NOTHING IS
GOING WRONG ON MY
WATCH.

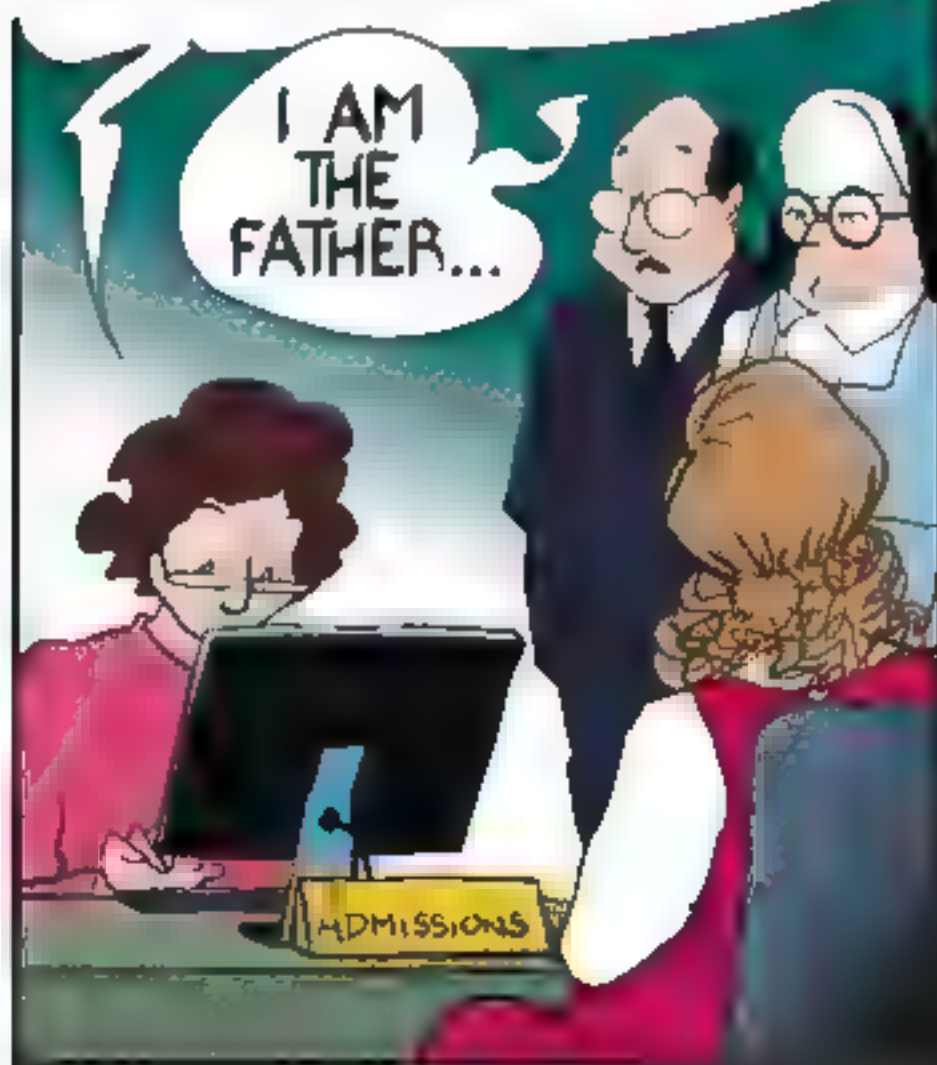


I REALLY WISH
SHE WOULDN'T CRACK
HER KNUCKLES THAT WAY.



...DIANE...DURLY. AND WHO IS THE FATHER?

I AM THE FATHER...



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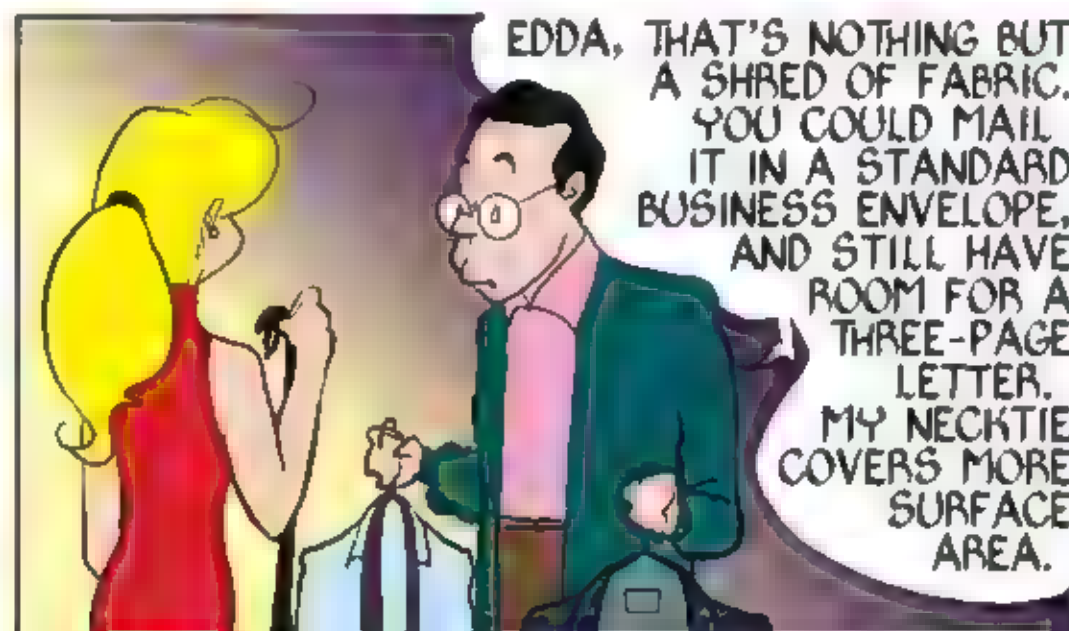
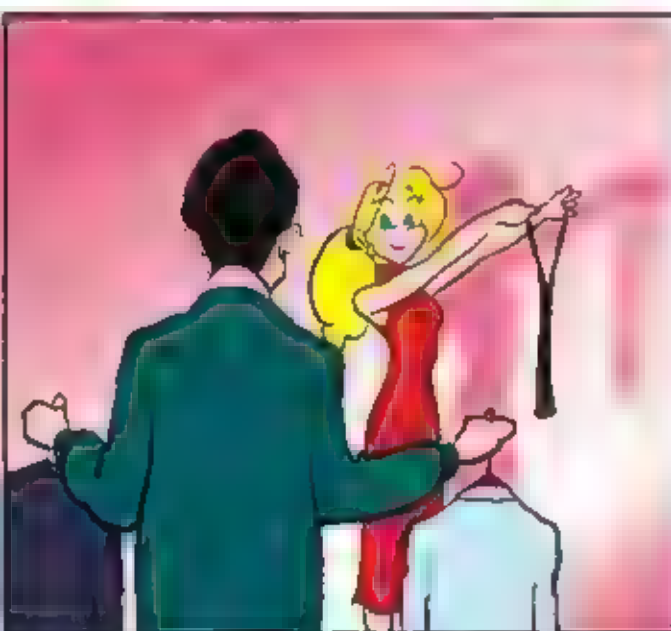
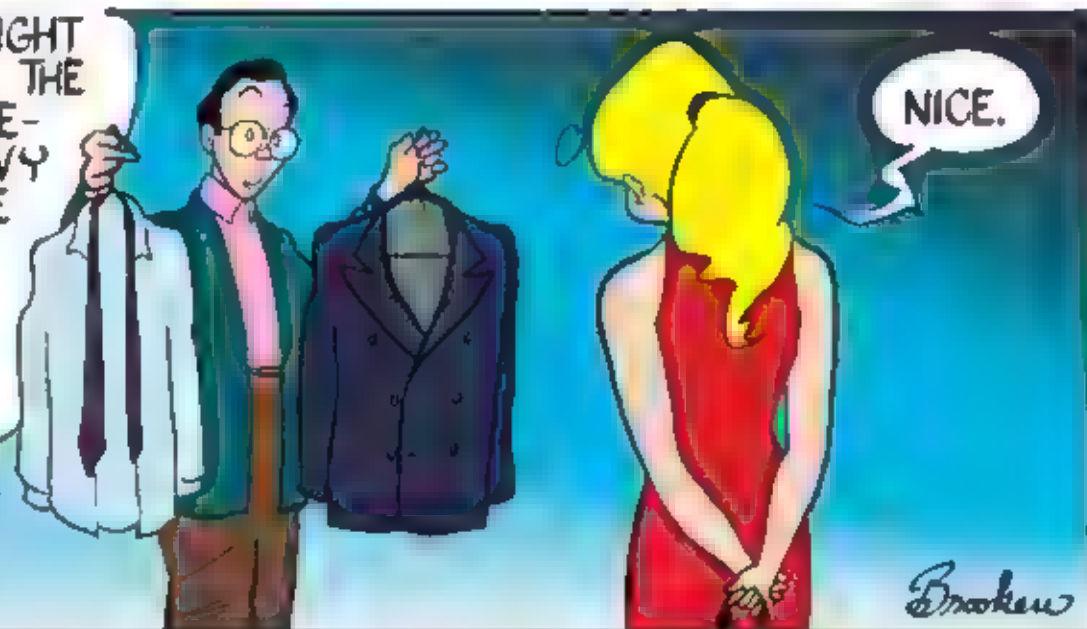
BUT NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT, I SUPPOSE THAT ISN'T WHAT SHE MEANT.

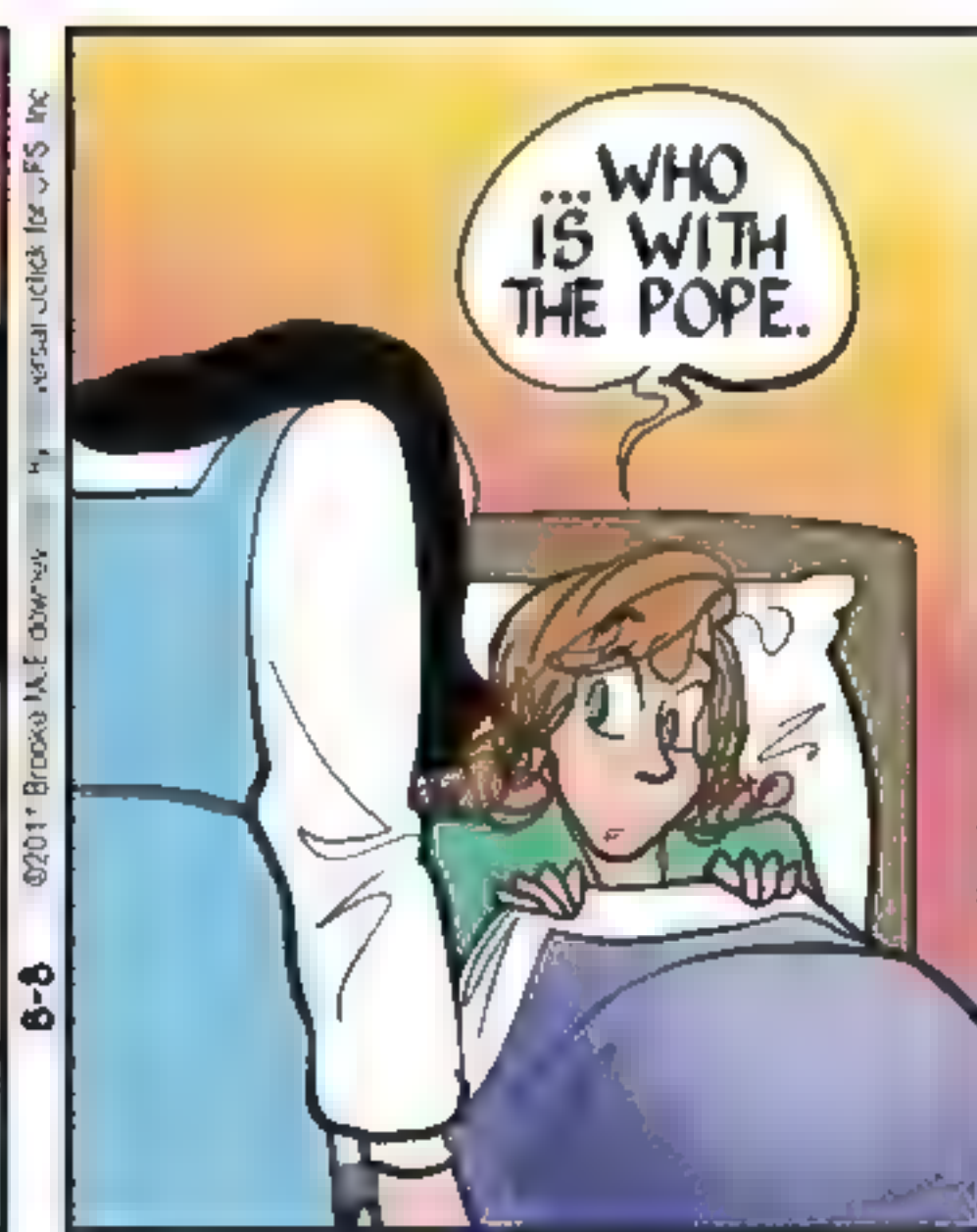
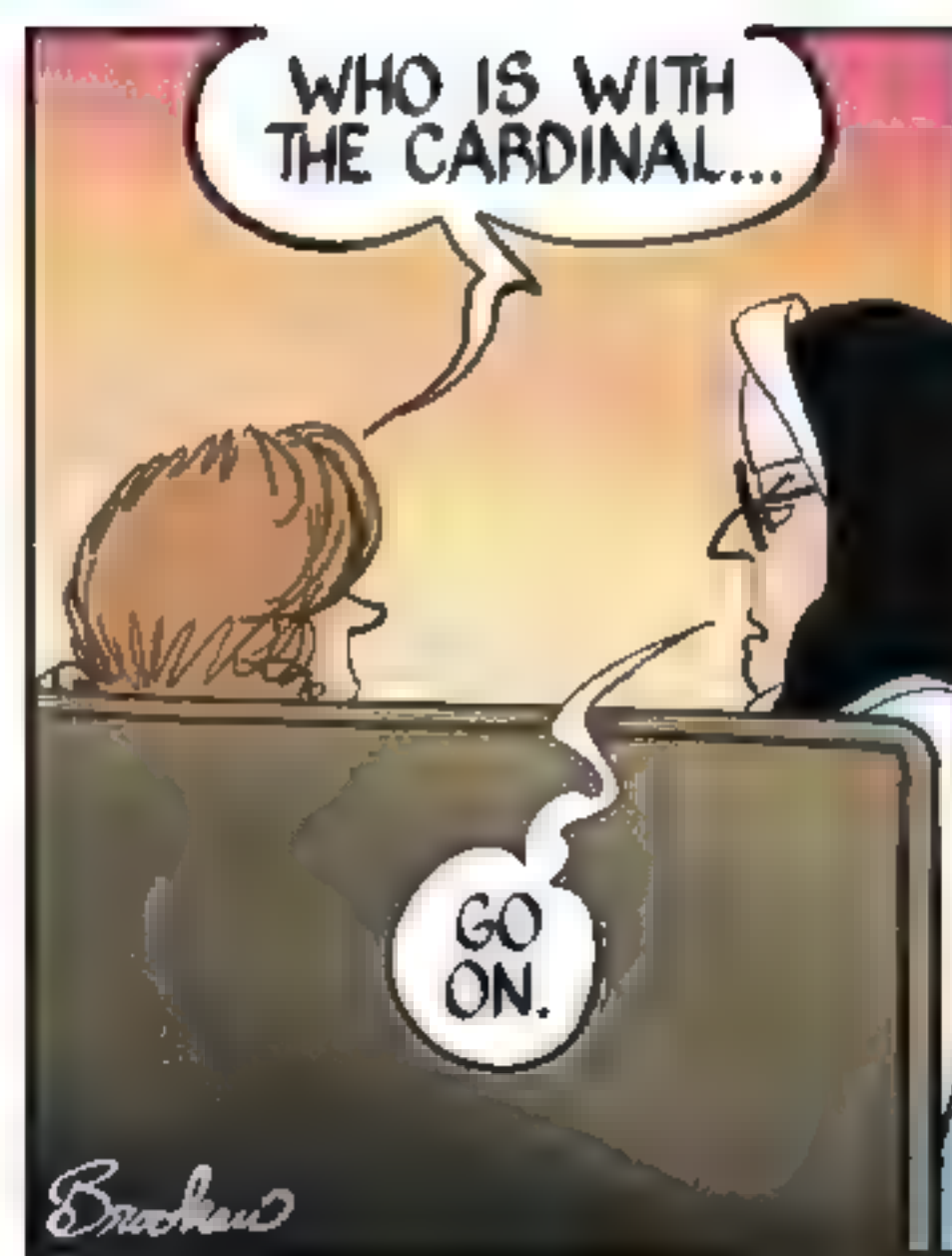
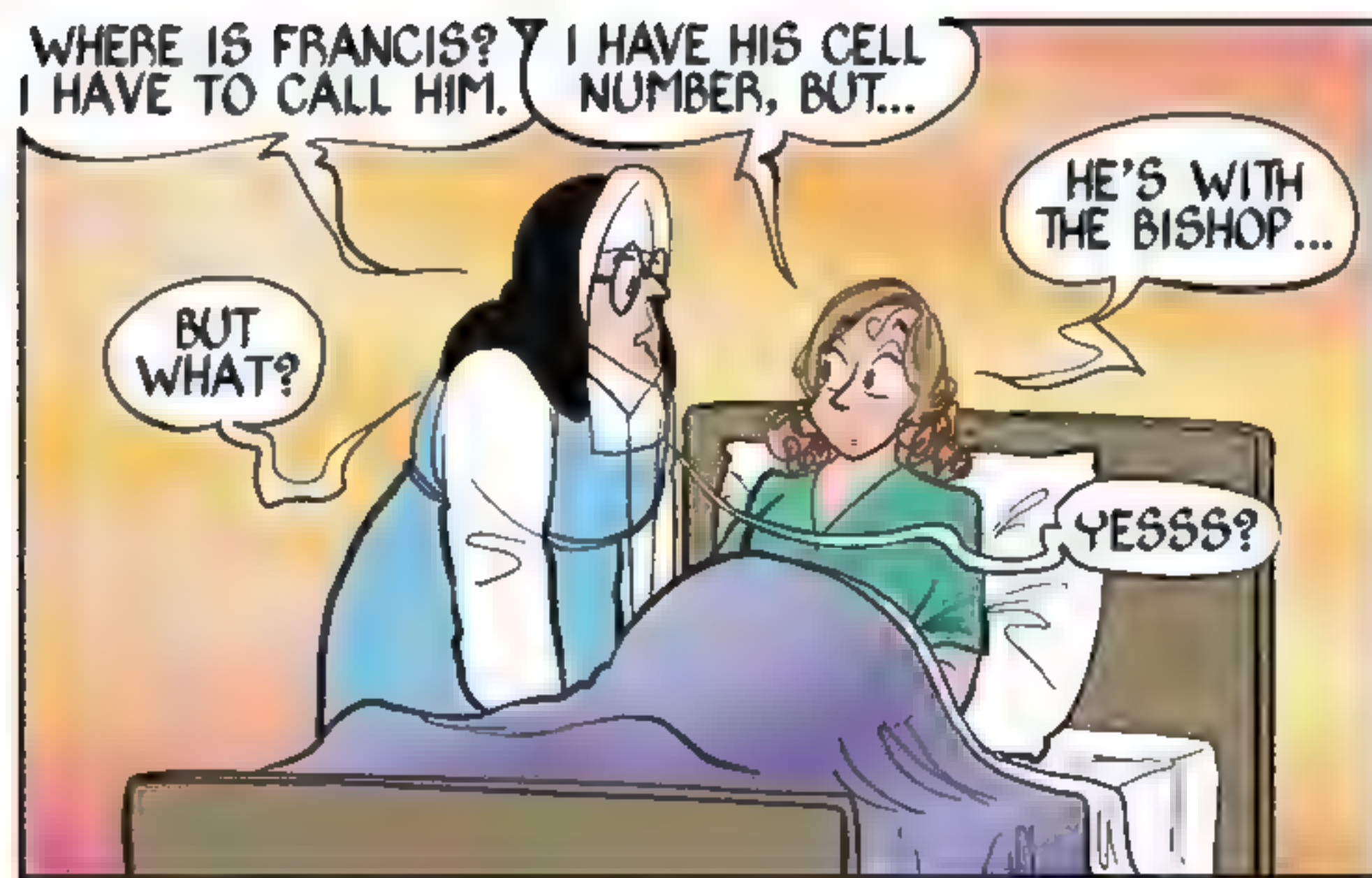


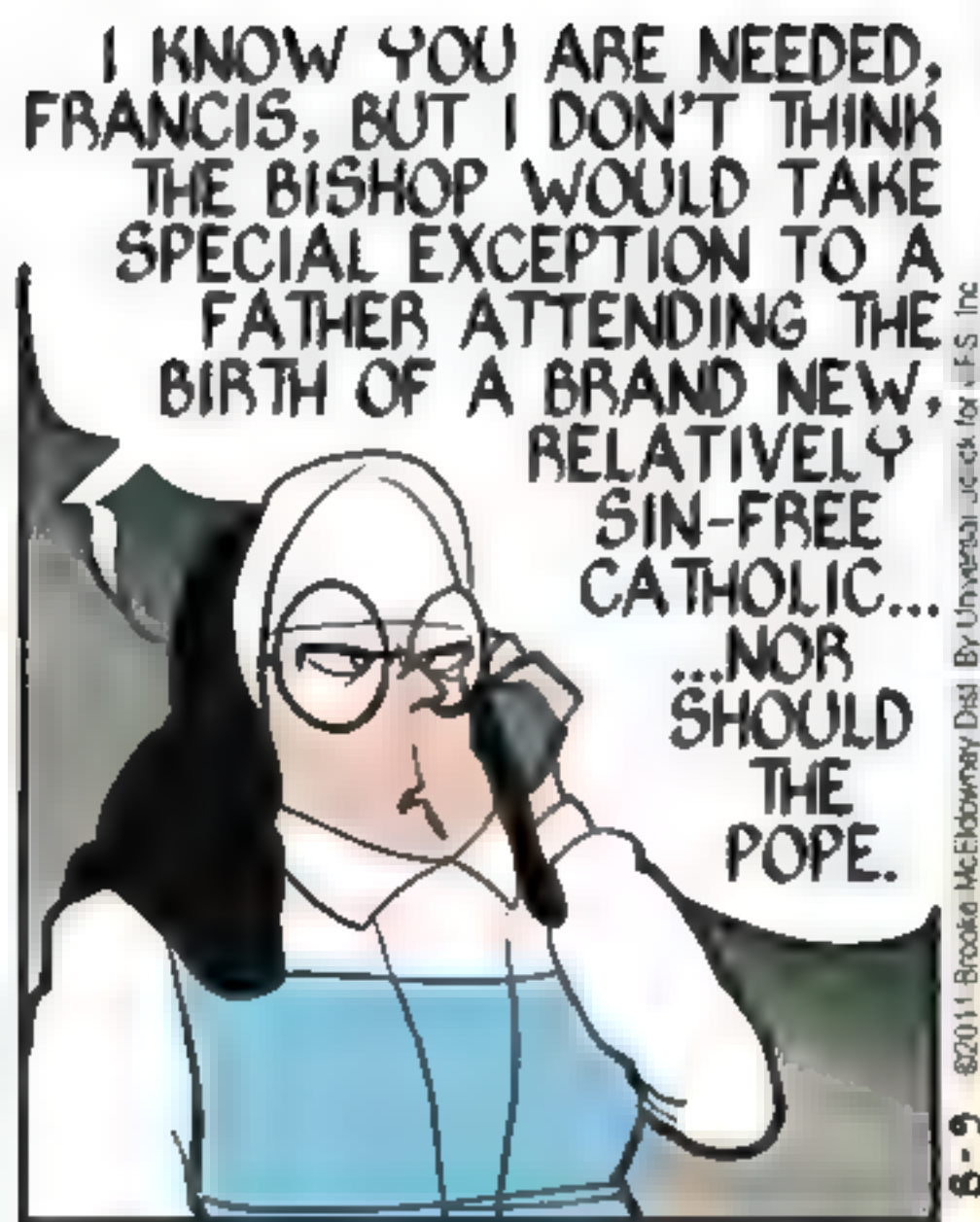


9 CHICKWEED LANE

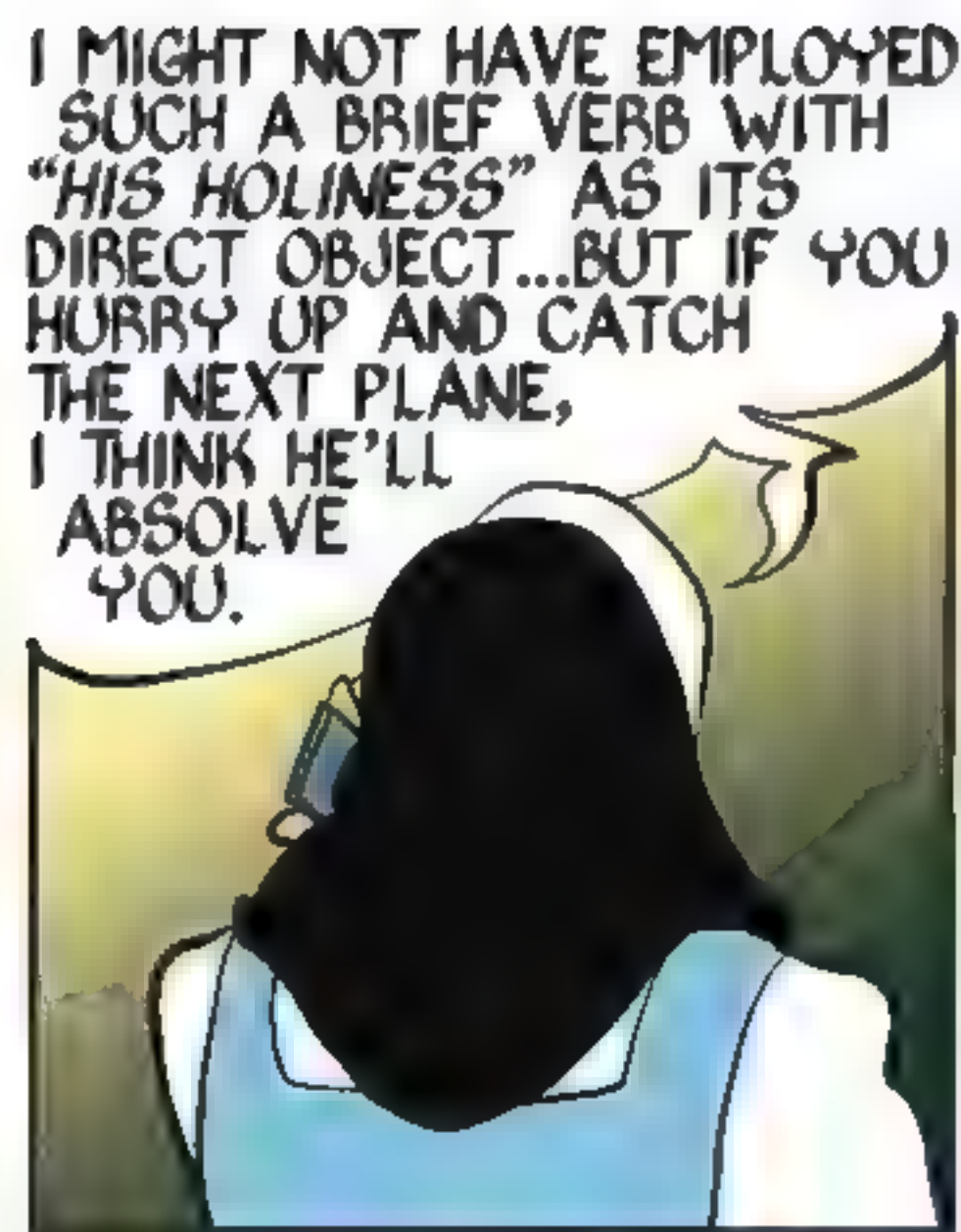
I THOUGHT I MIGHT WEAR THIS TO THE PARTY...DOUBLE-BREADED, NAVY BLUE PINSTRIPE WITH LIGHT BLUE SHIRT AND DEEP VIOLET TIE. WHAT DO YOU THINK?

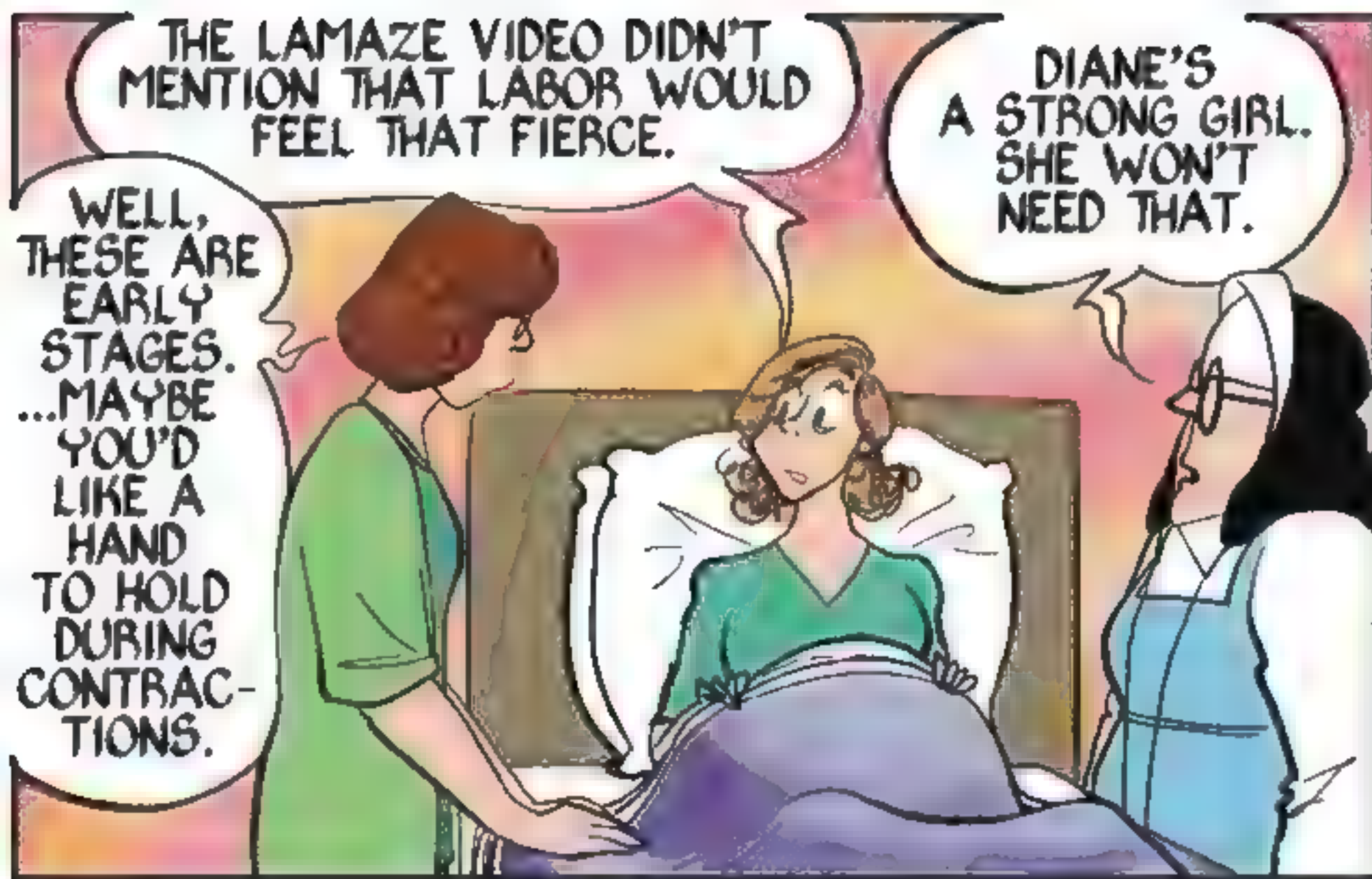


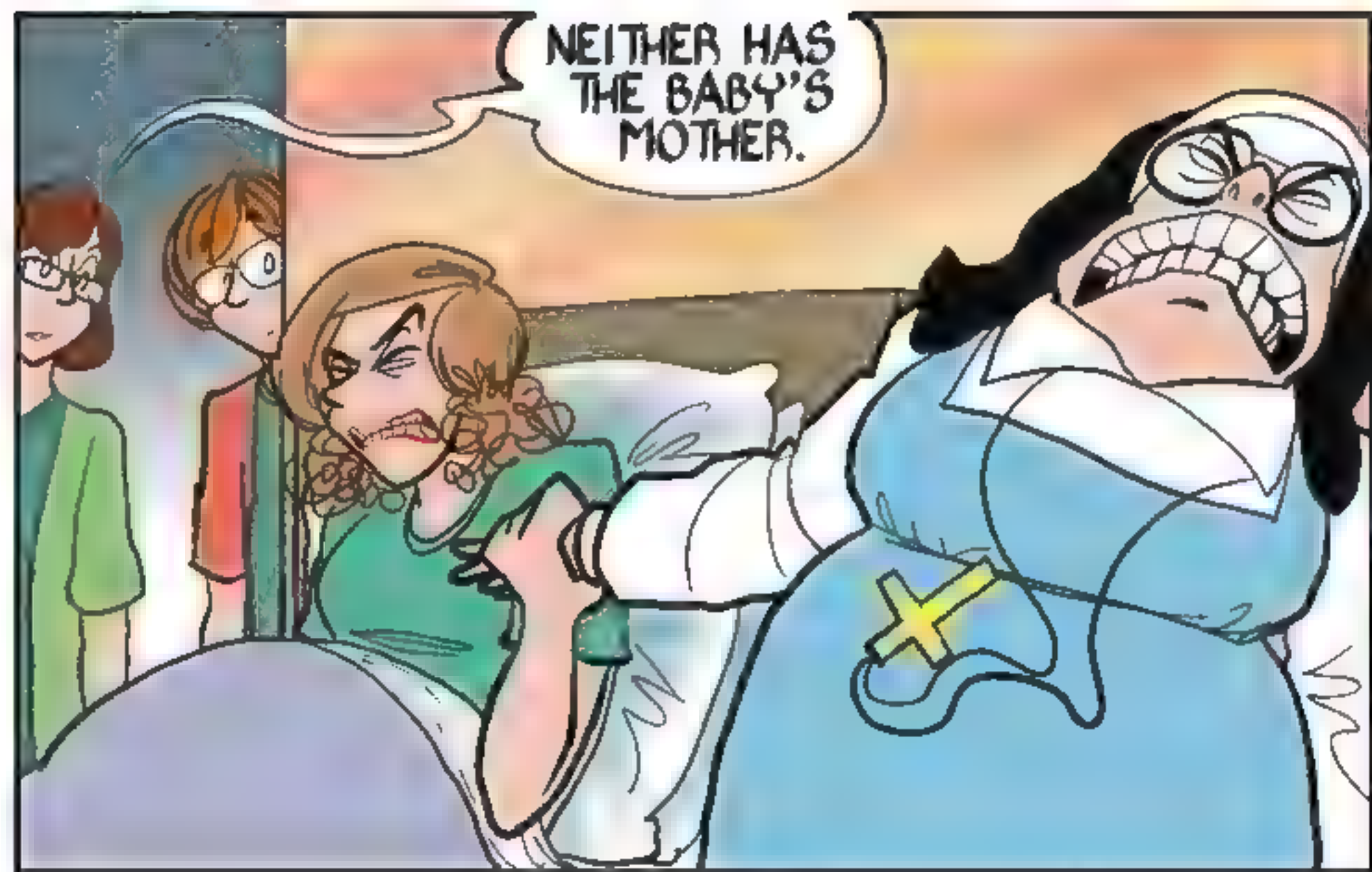
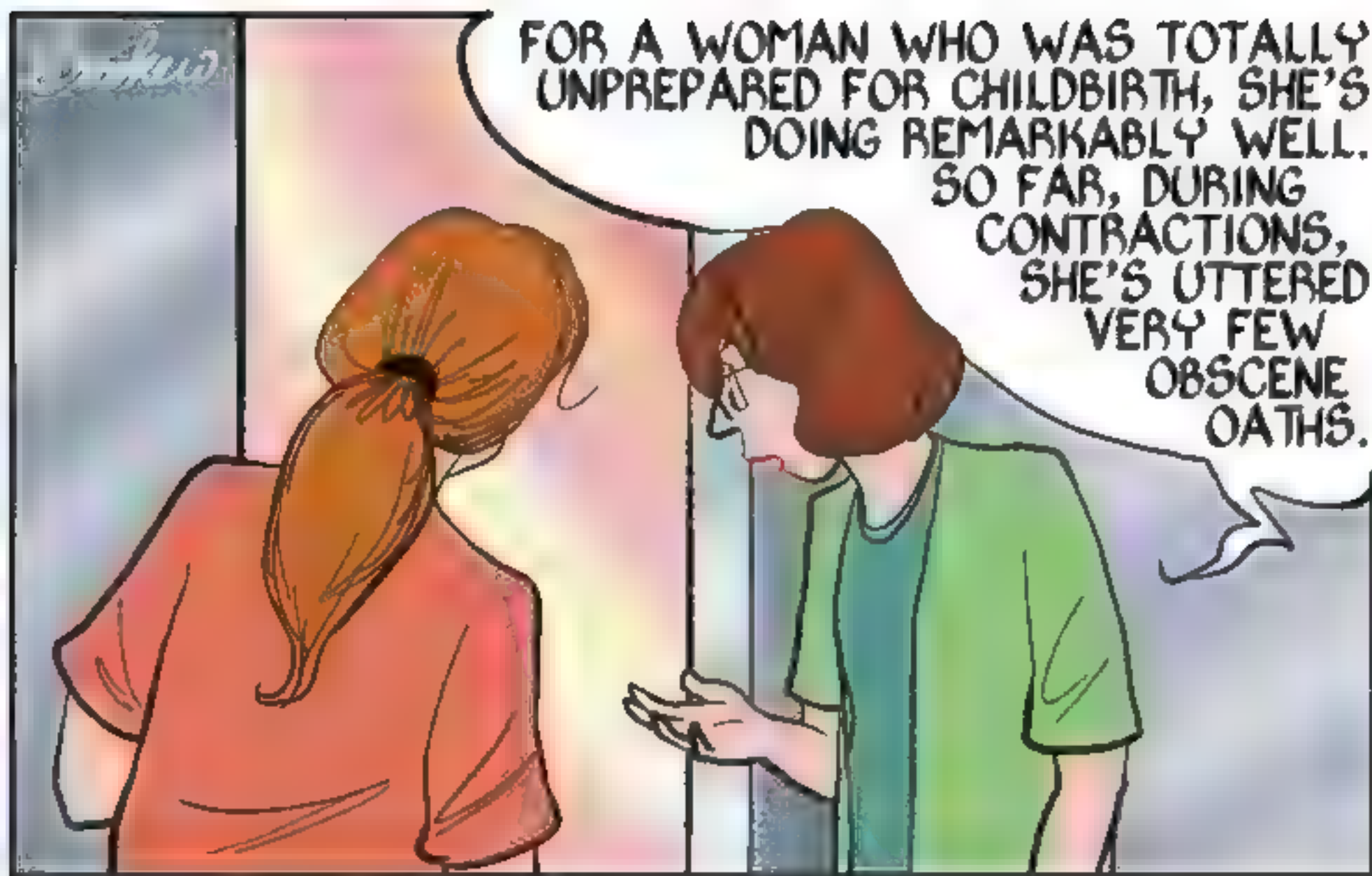


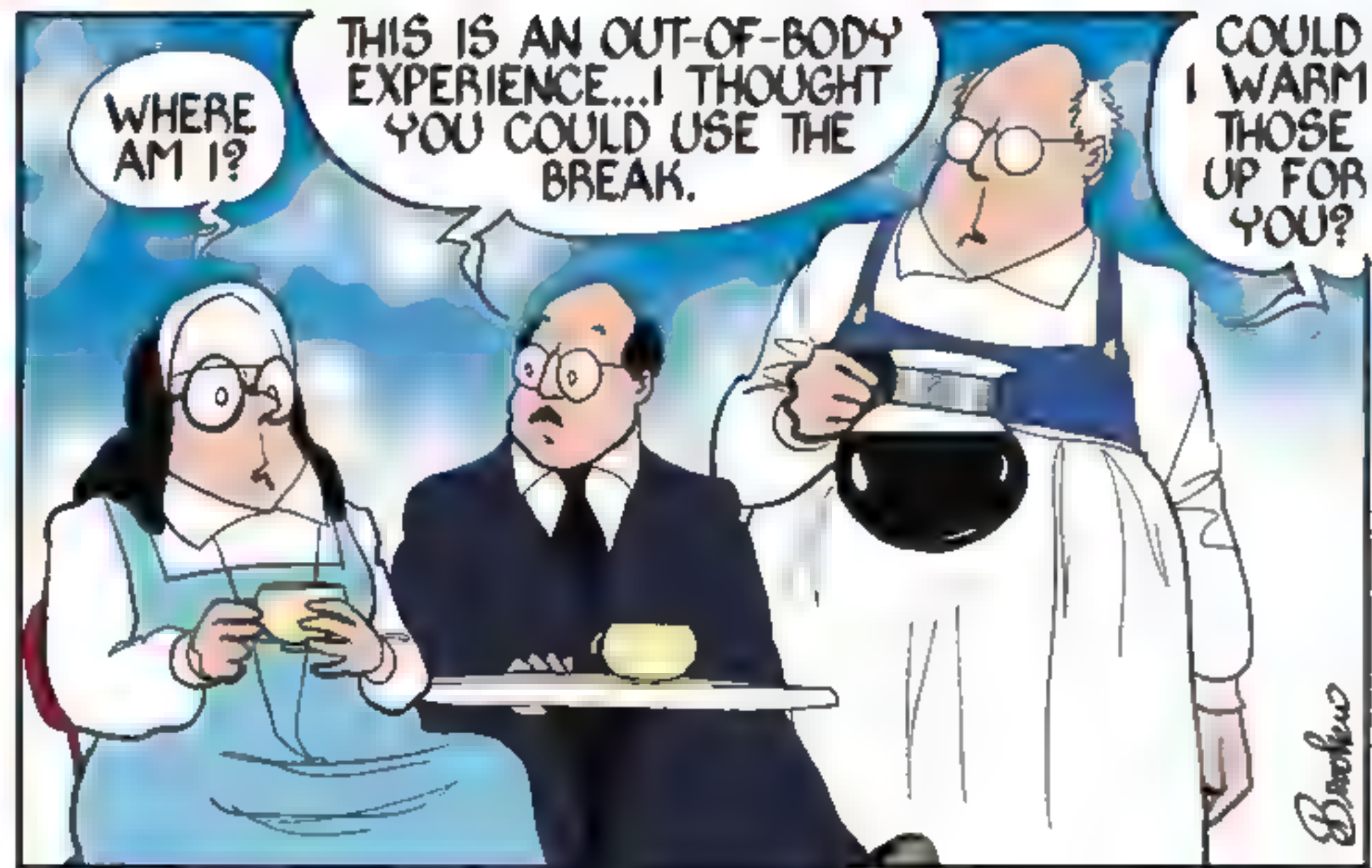
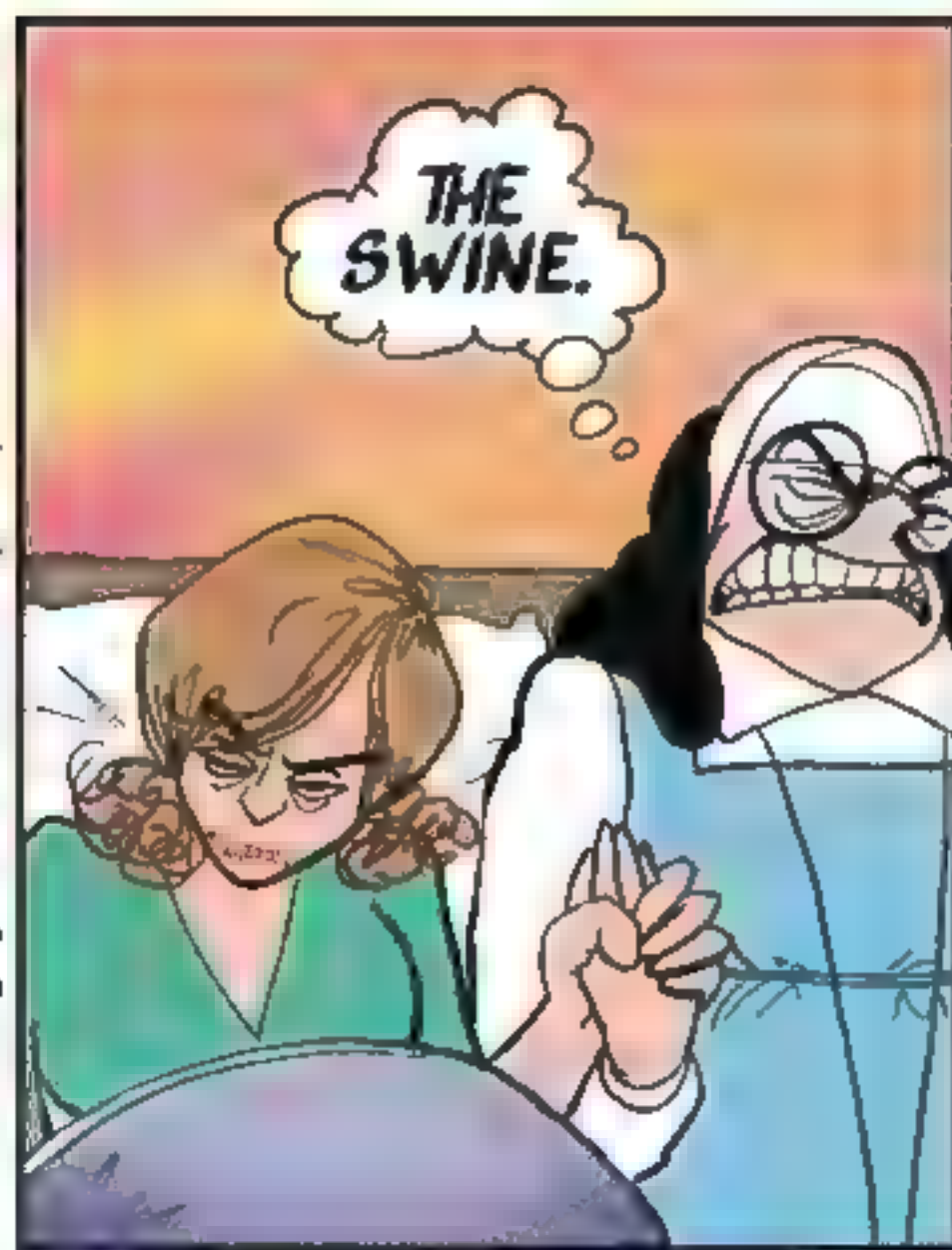
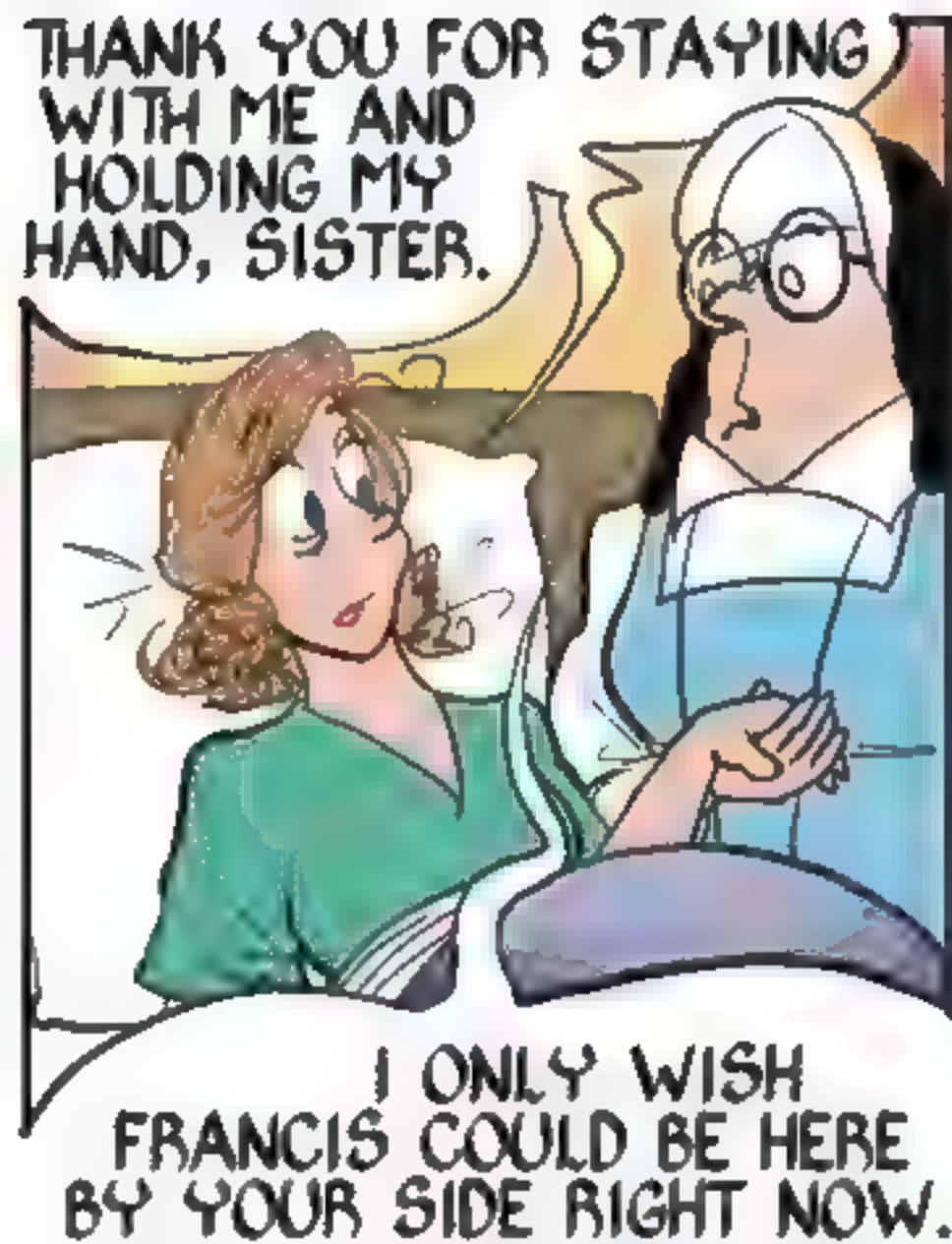


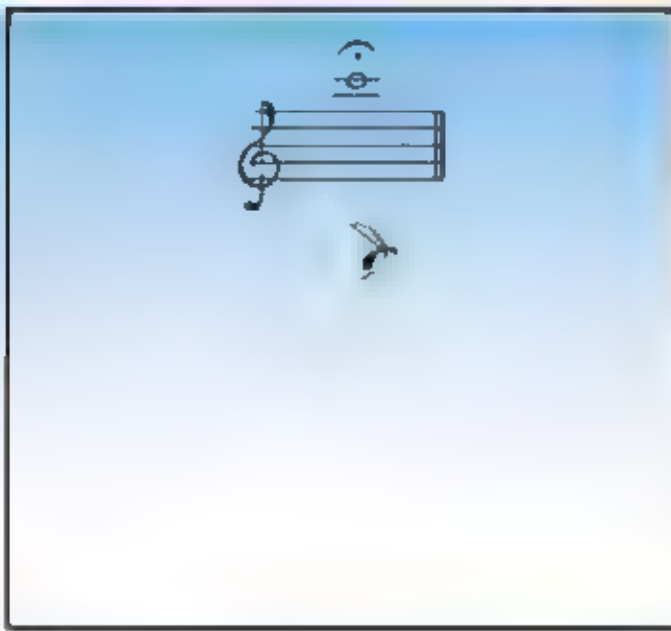
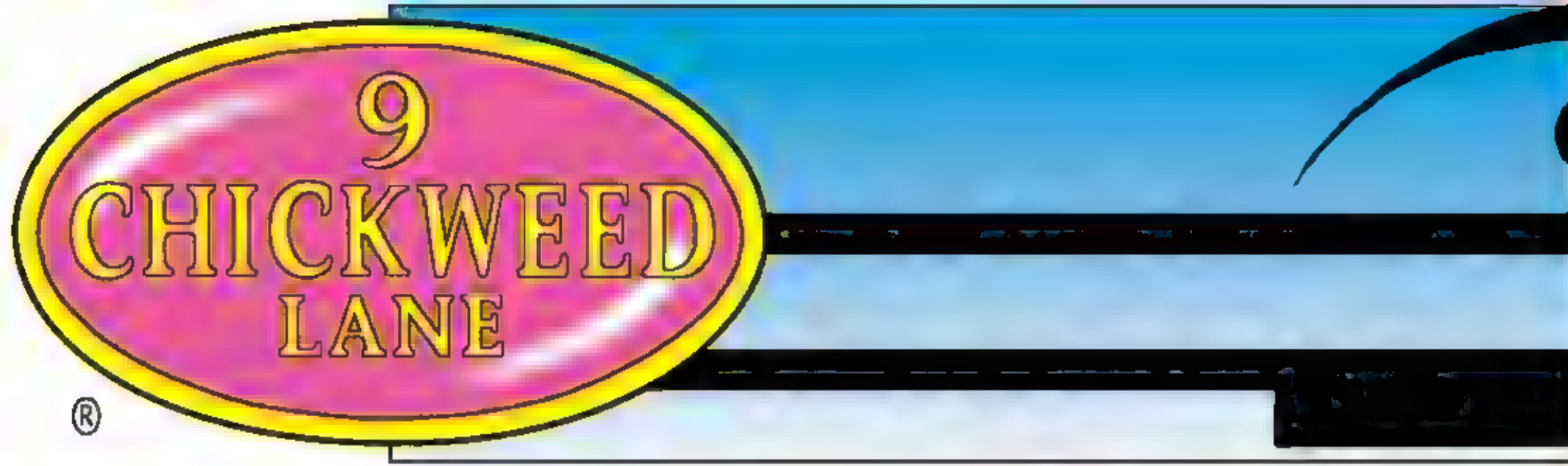
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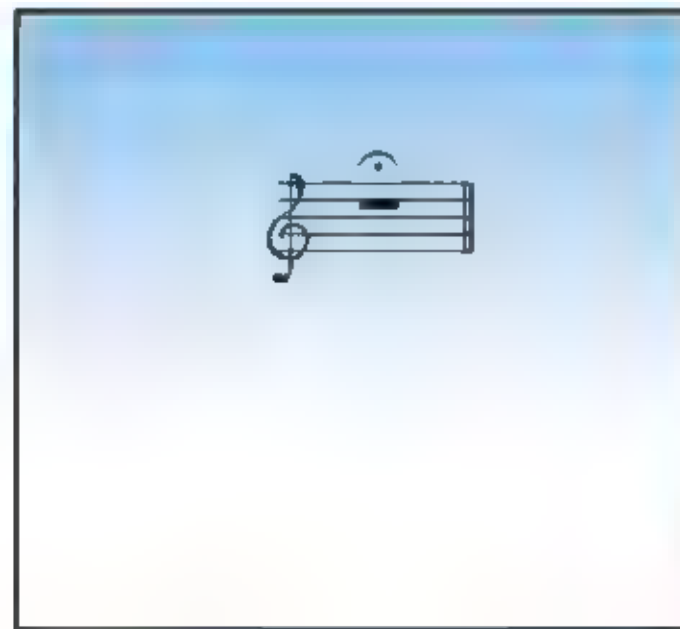
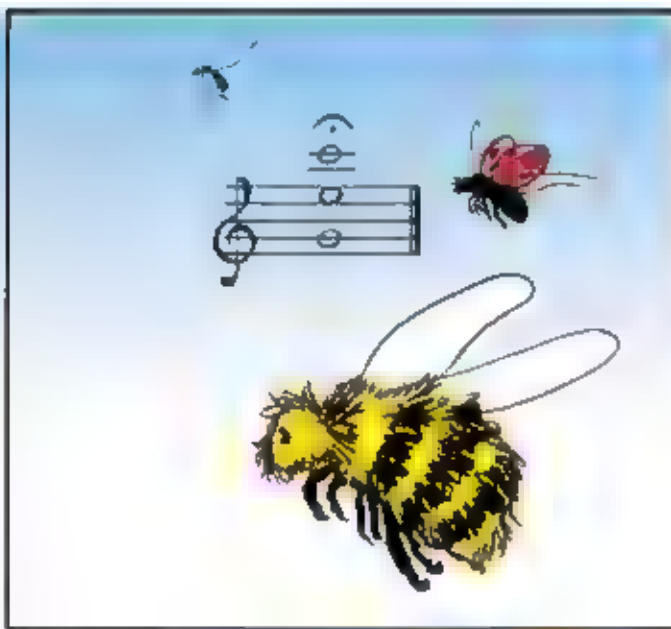
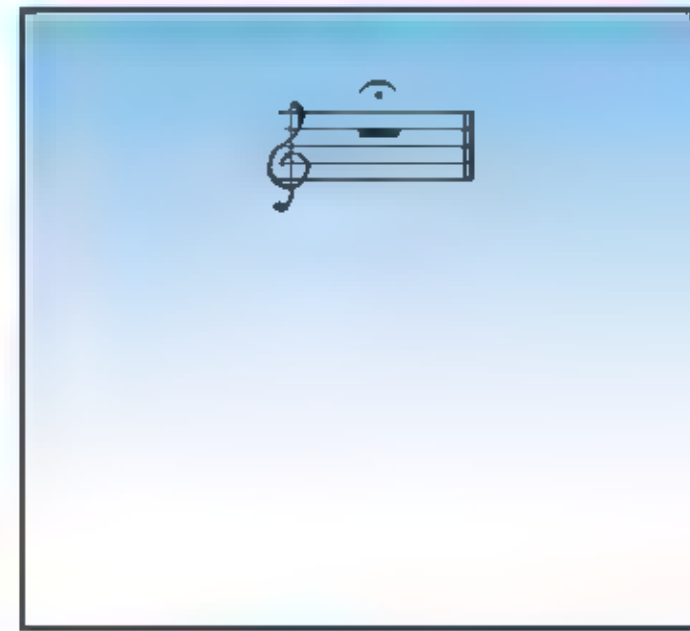
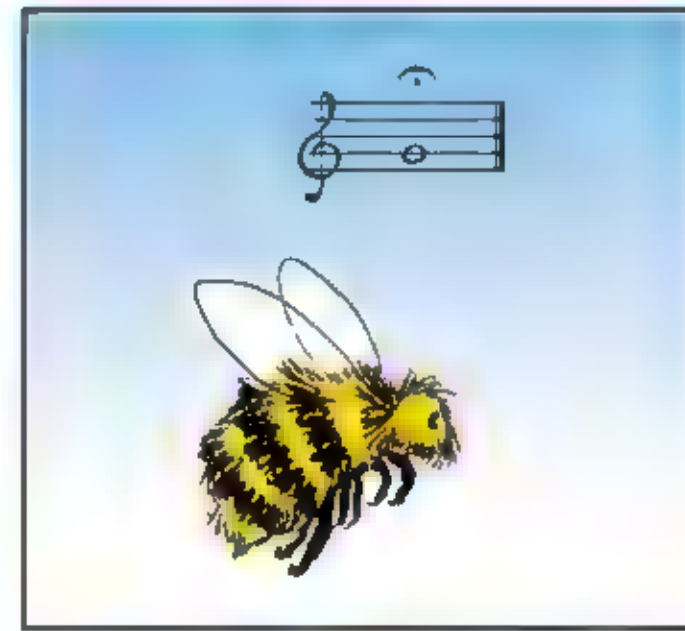
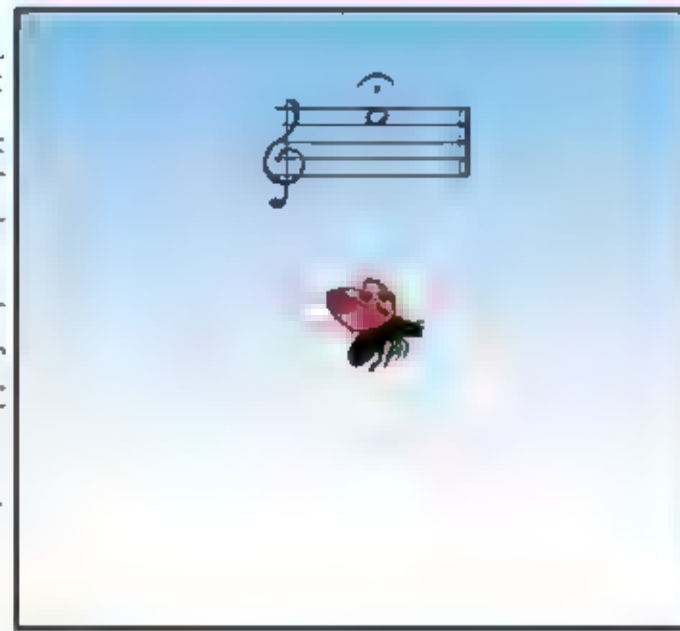




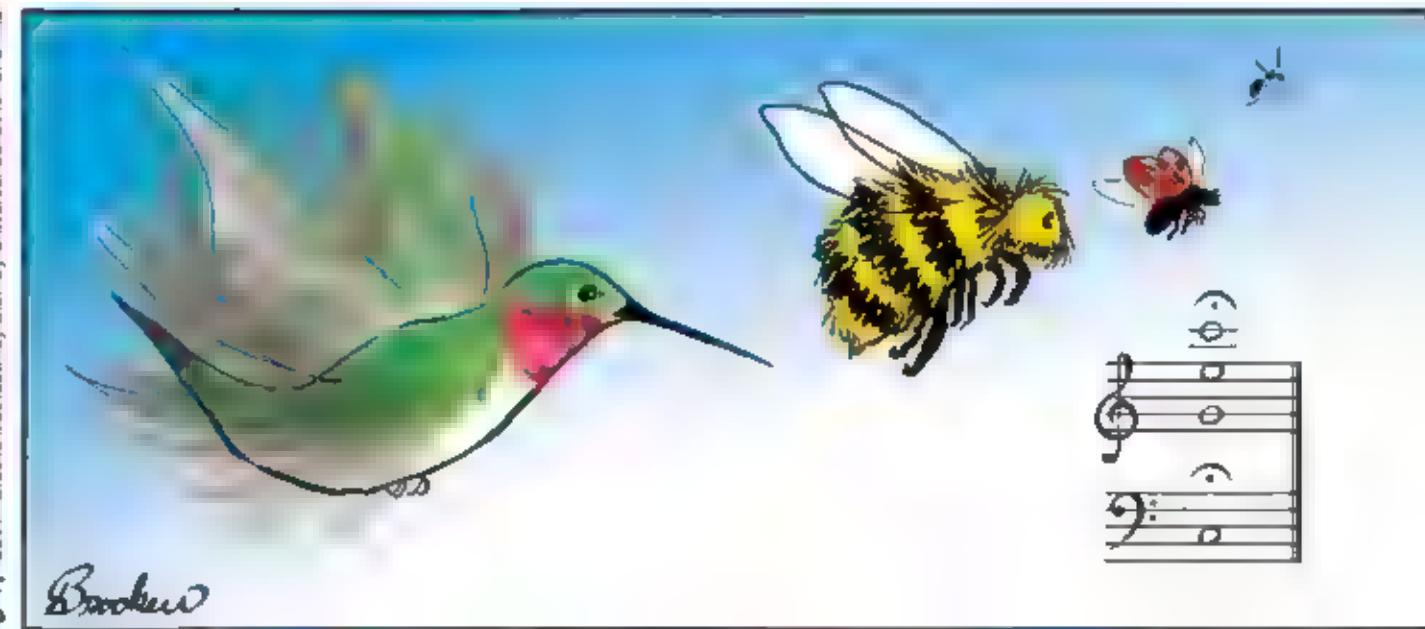




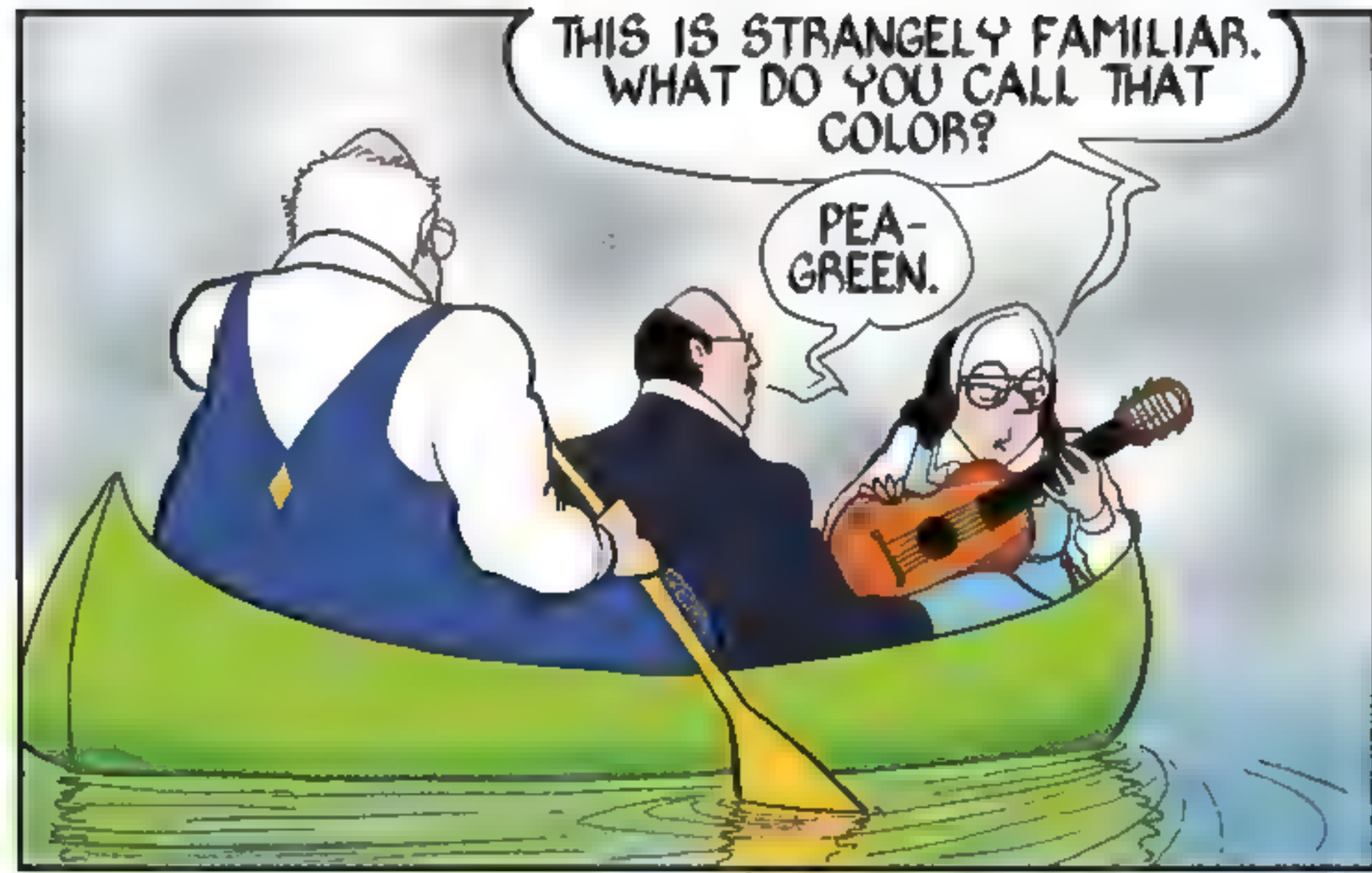
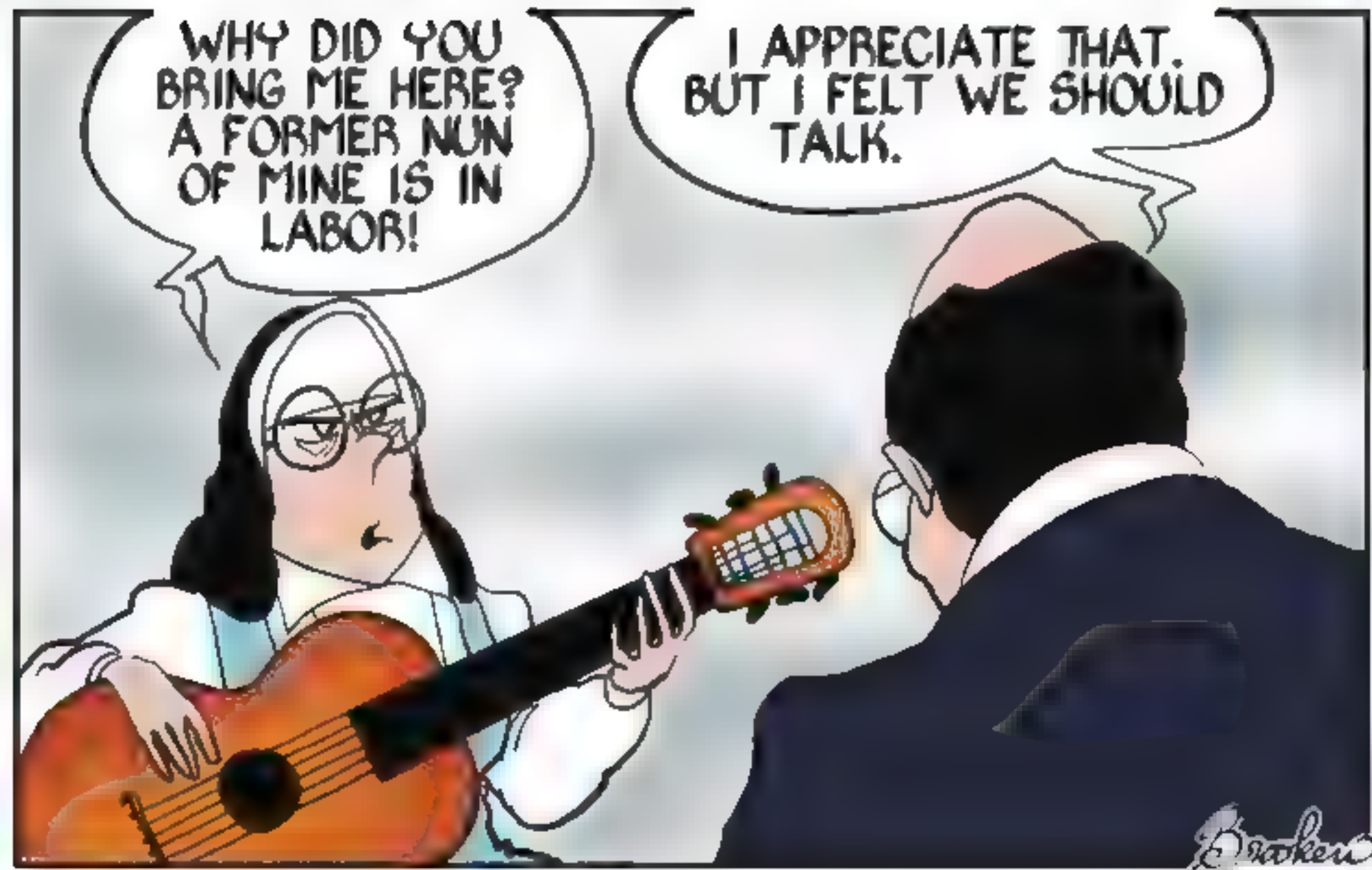
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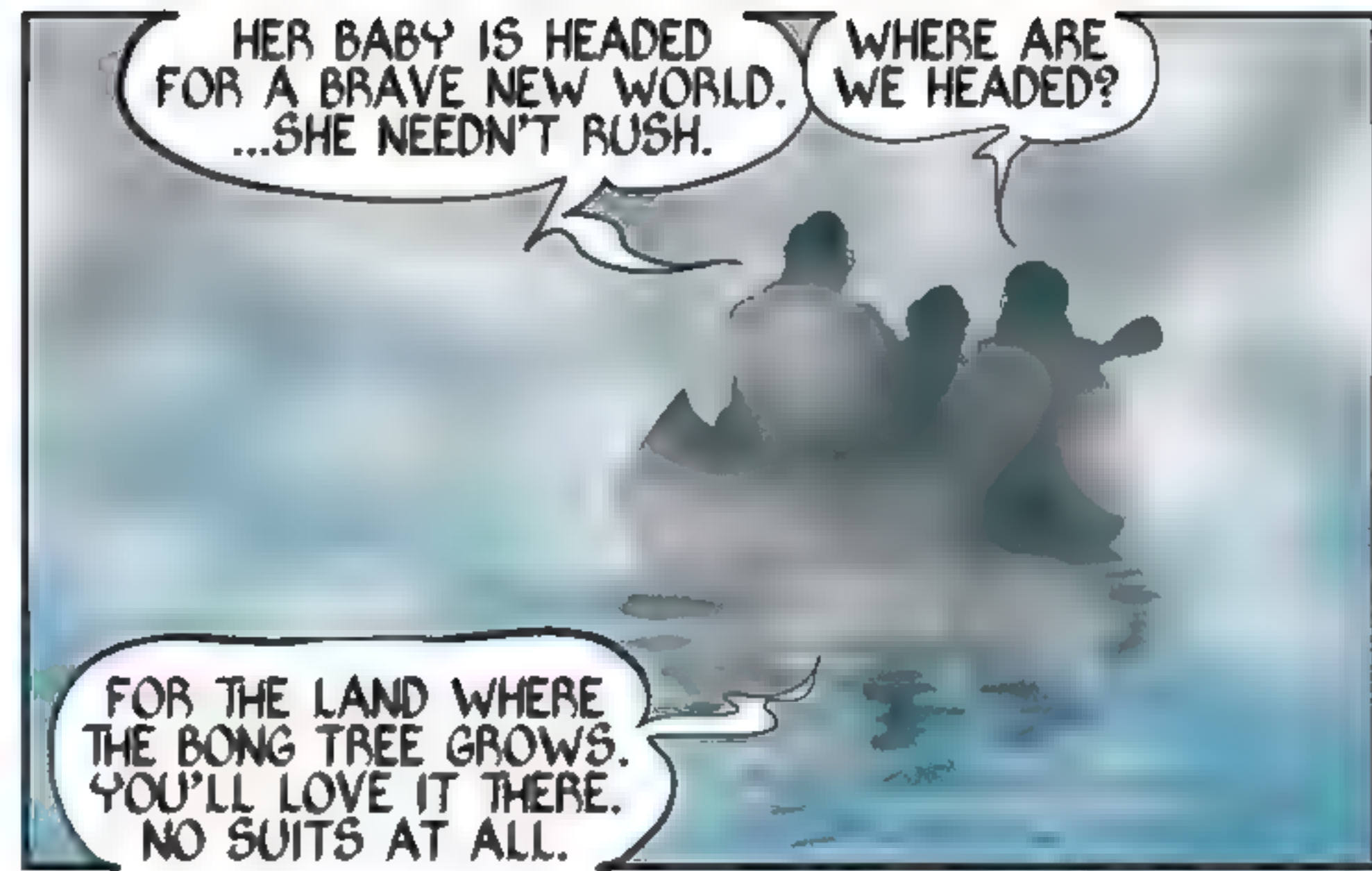
DON'T EXALT YOURSELF WITH ANY FANCY ILLUSIONS, BUSTER. I DON'T BELIEVE FOR AN INSTANT YOU CAN DO ANYTHING TO DIANE'S BABY.

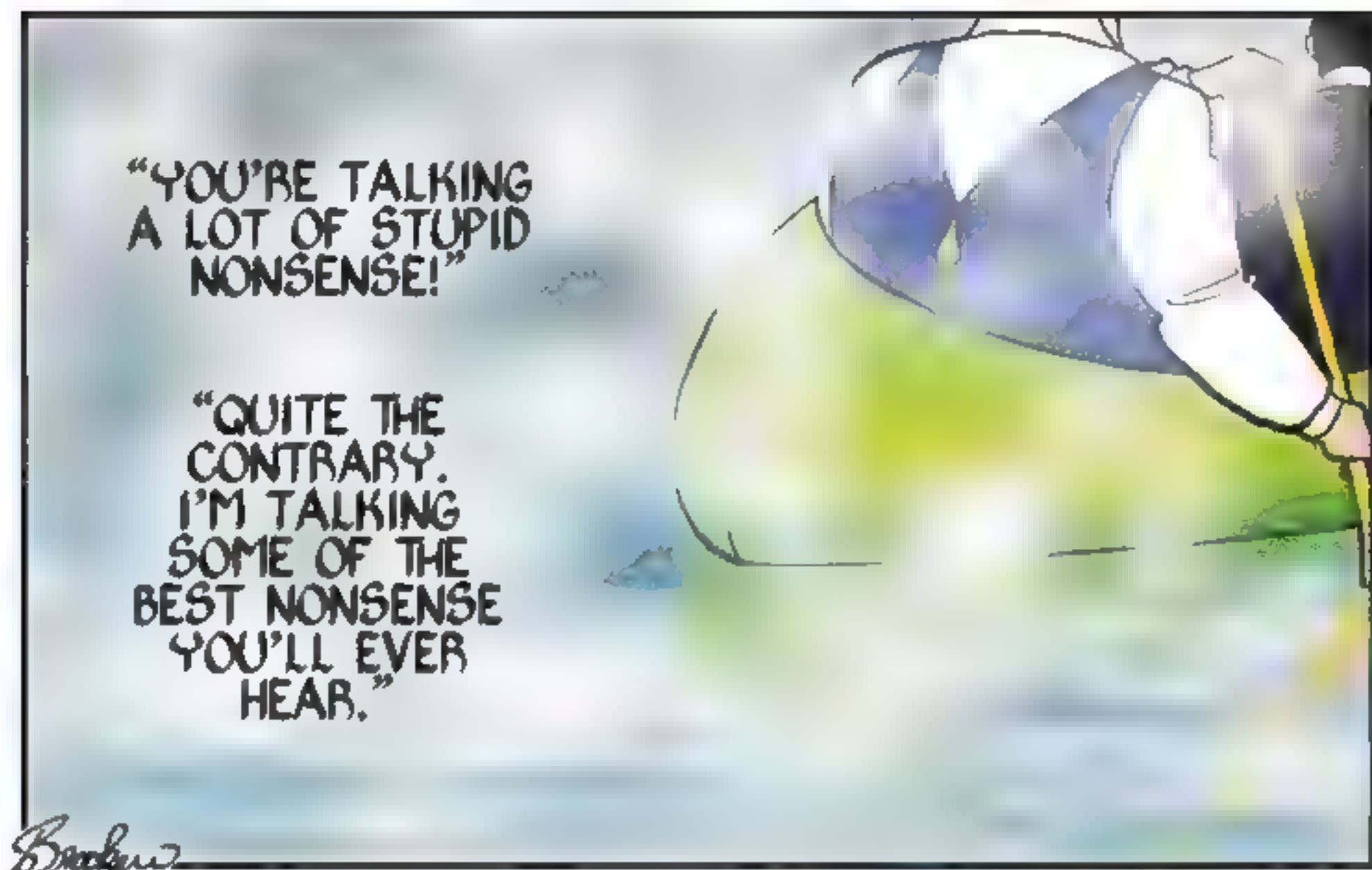
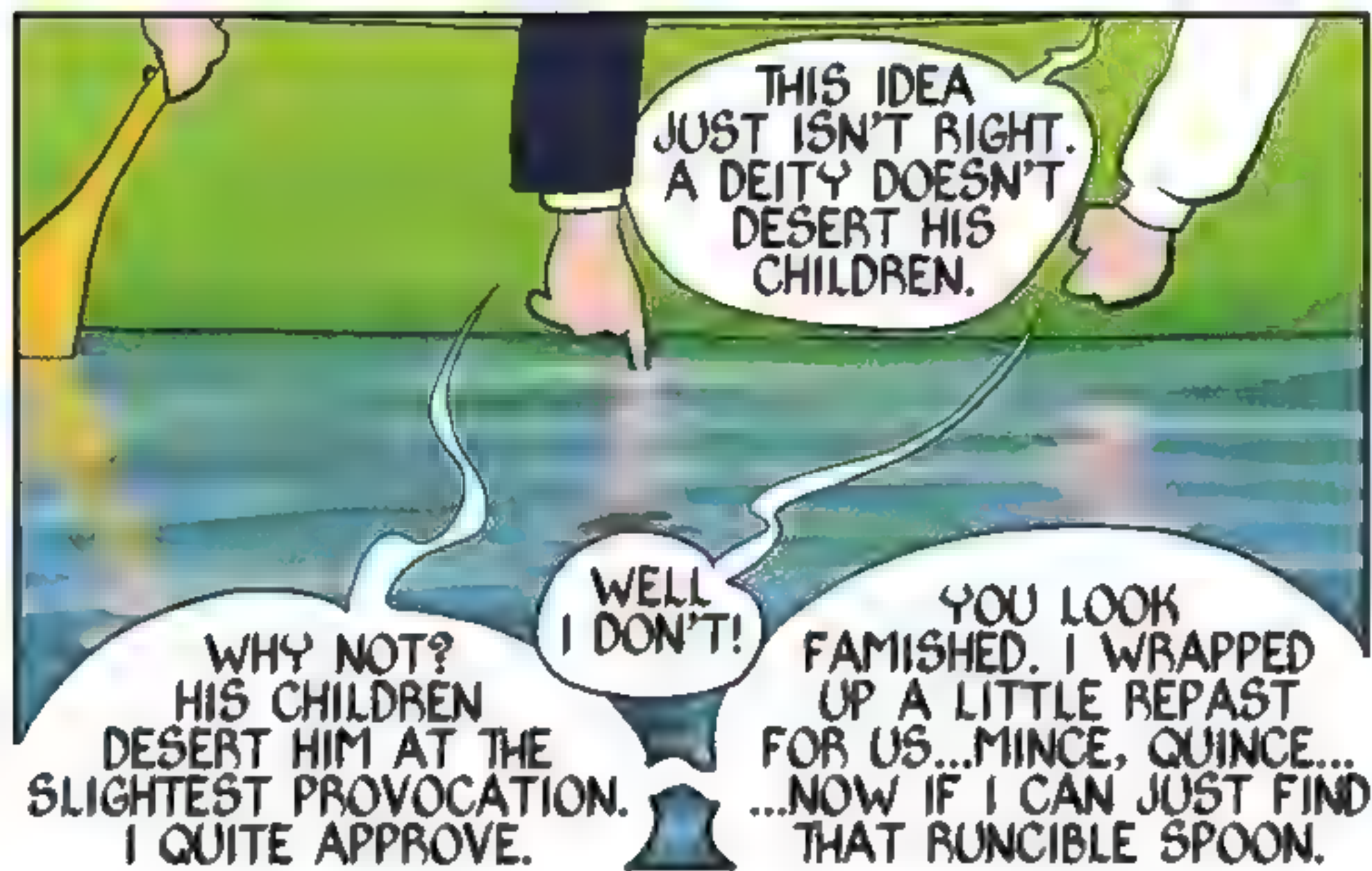
OH, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT. I'M RESIGNING AS EXECUTIVE PRODUCER.

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER?
...OF WHAT?

"EVERYTHING LLC." IN THE BEGINNING, WHEN I CREATED HEAVEN AND EARTH, IT WAS A LITTLE COTTAGE INDUSTRY, LIKE SELLING WHOOPIE PIES. NOW THE WHOLE GALAXY'S OPERATED BY SUITS AS FAR AS THE EYE CAN SEE, DRIVING THE WHOLE THING INTO THE GROUND. THEY CAN'T BLOW THEIR NOSES WITHOUT RUNNING UP A DEBT...THEN LYING ABOUT IT. SO I'M OUT.









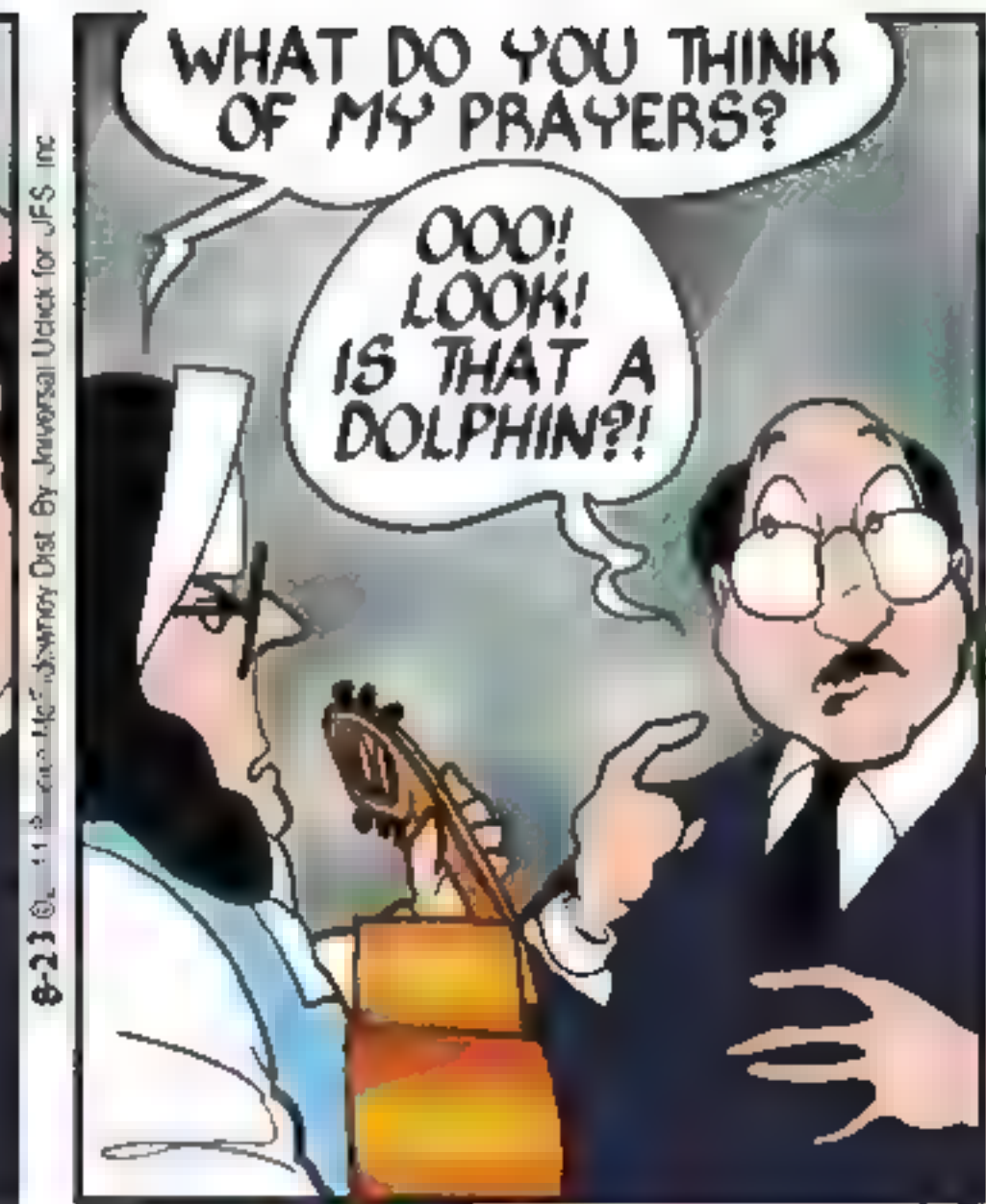
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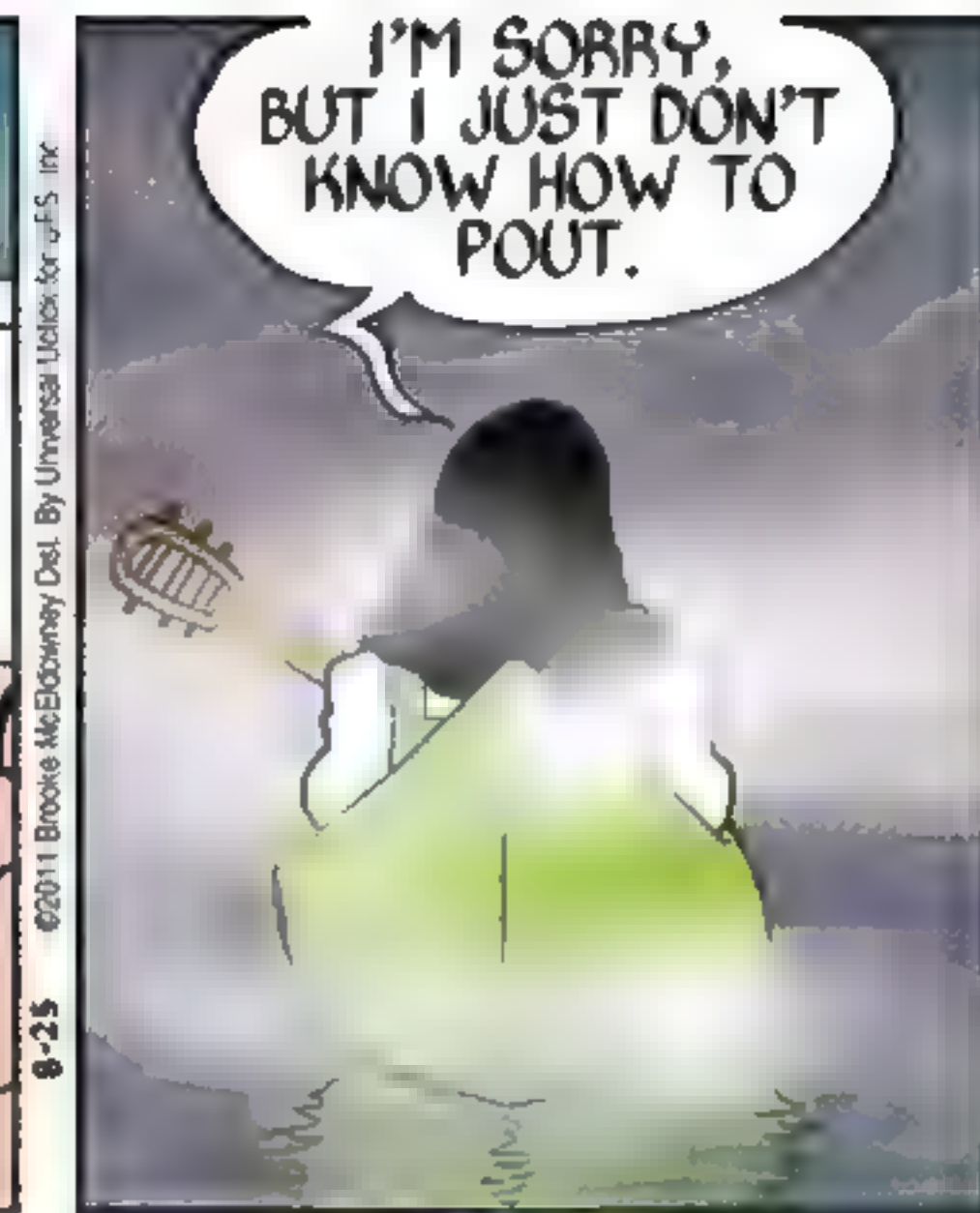
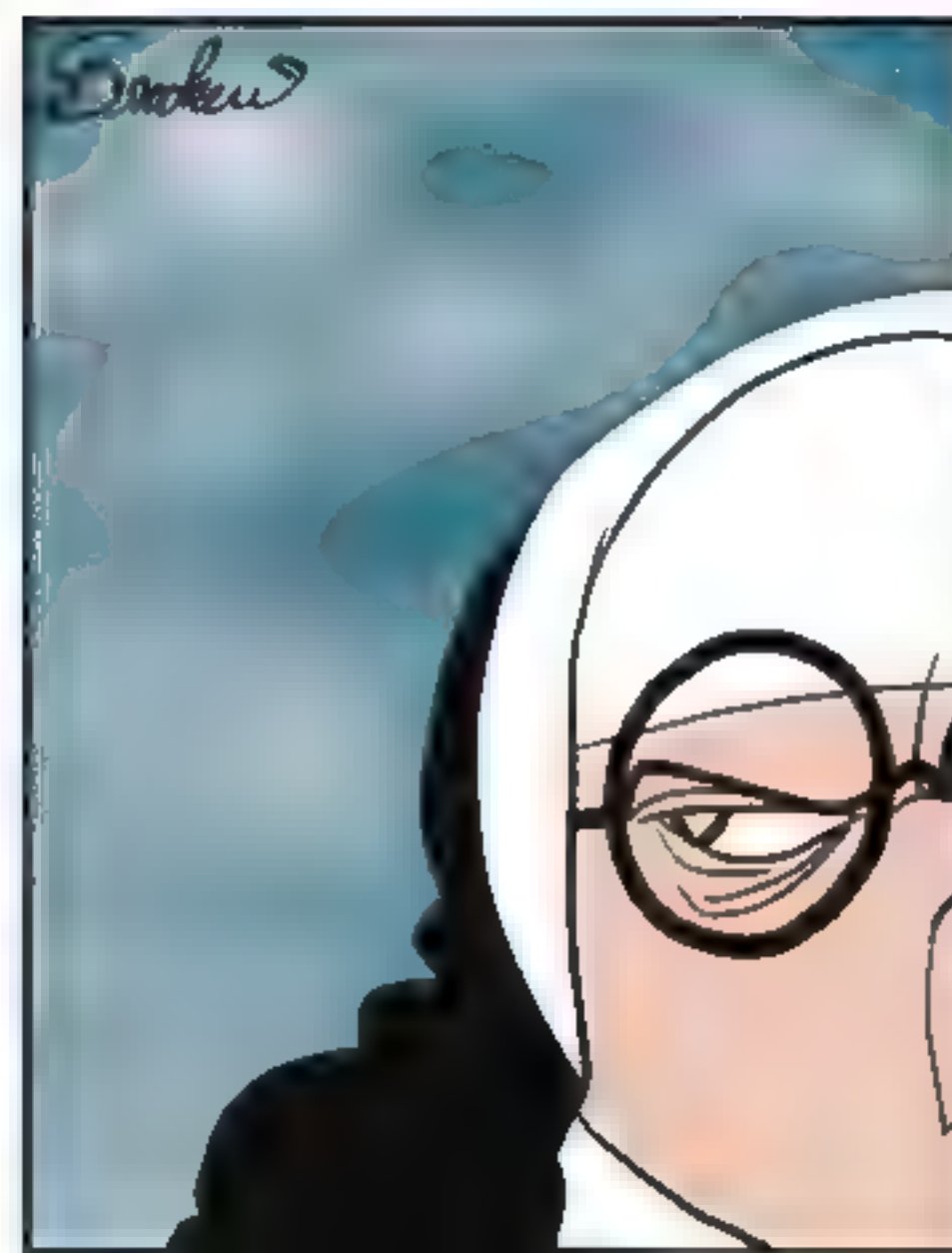


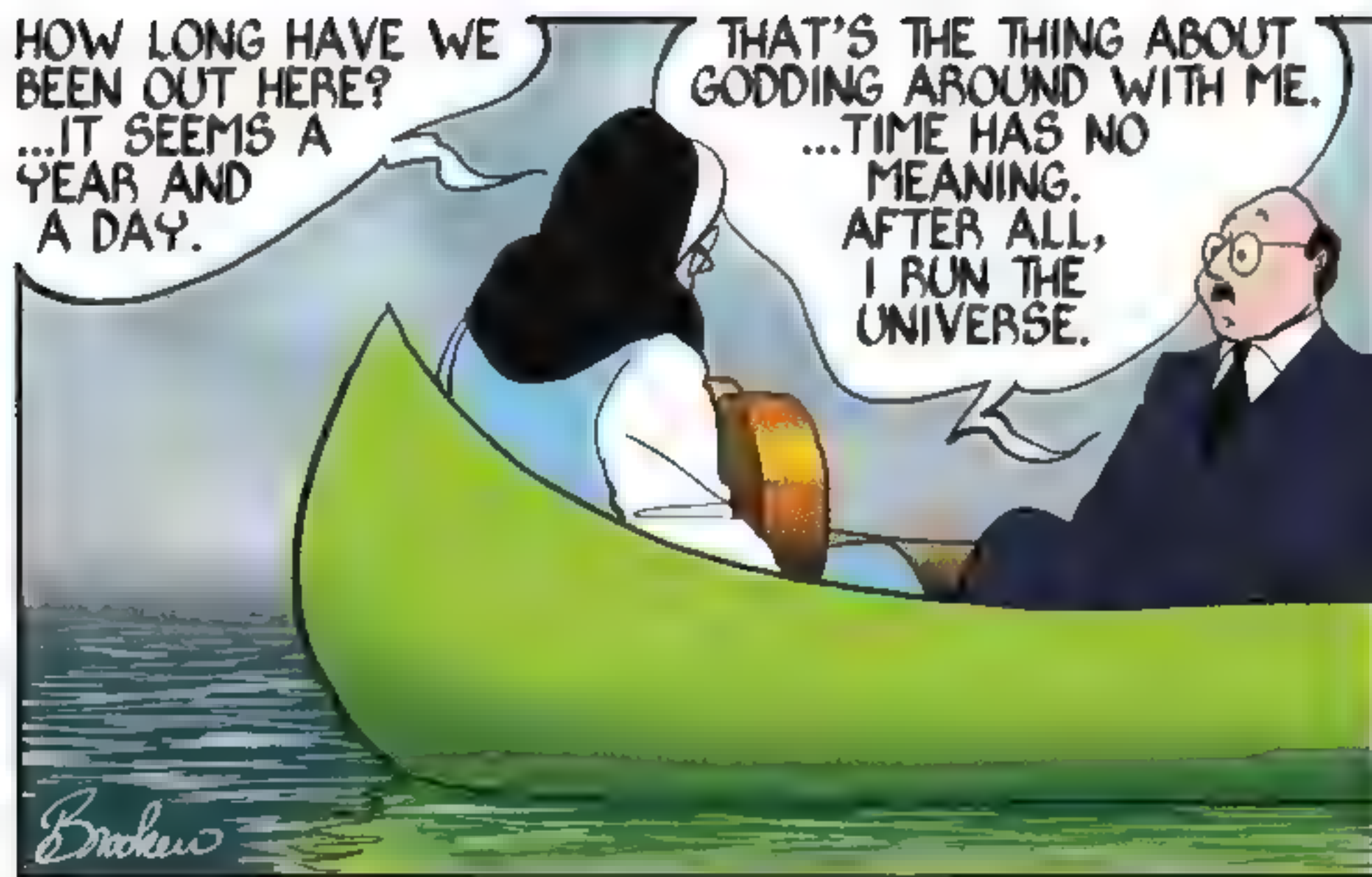
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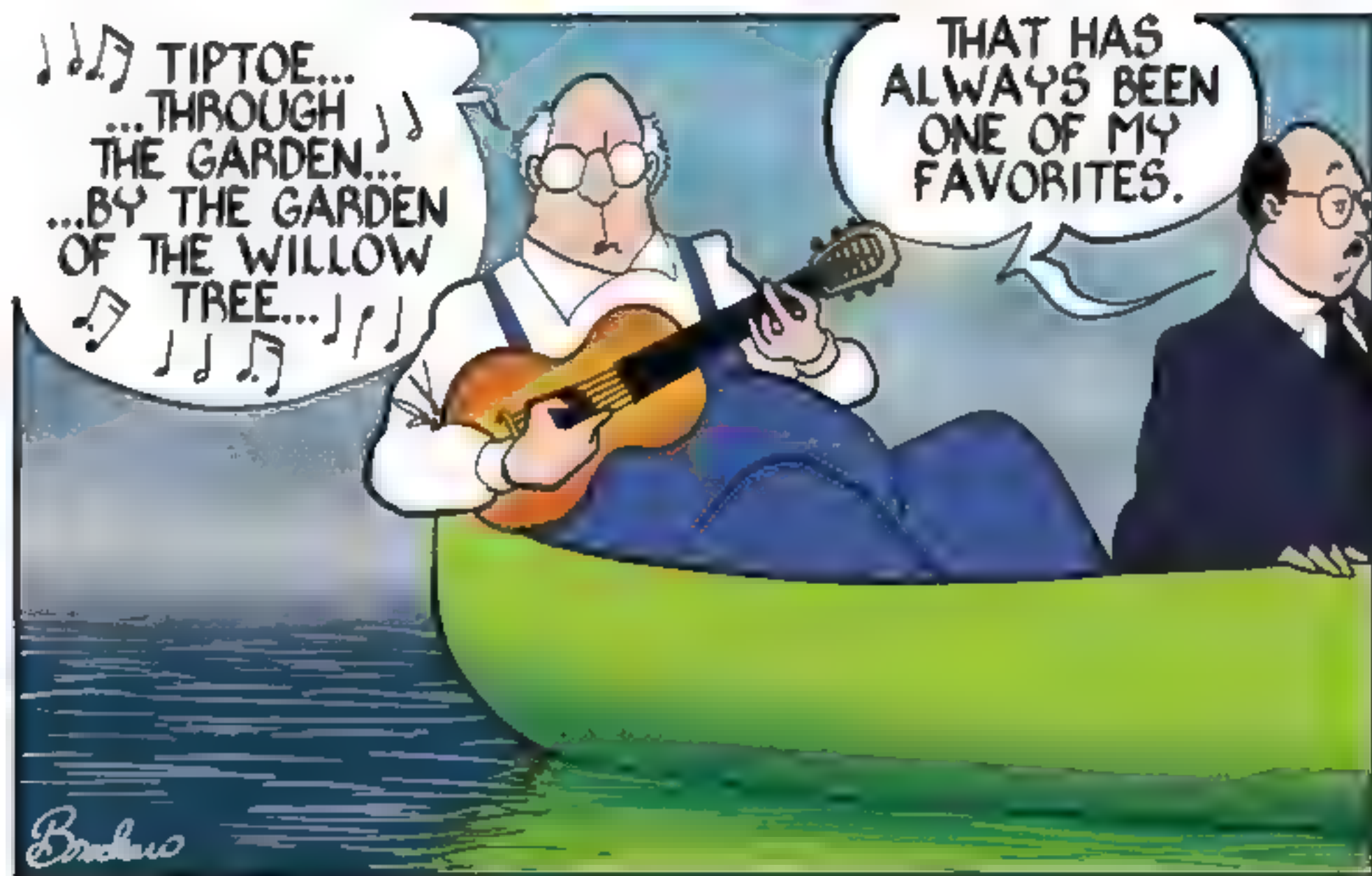


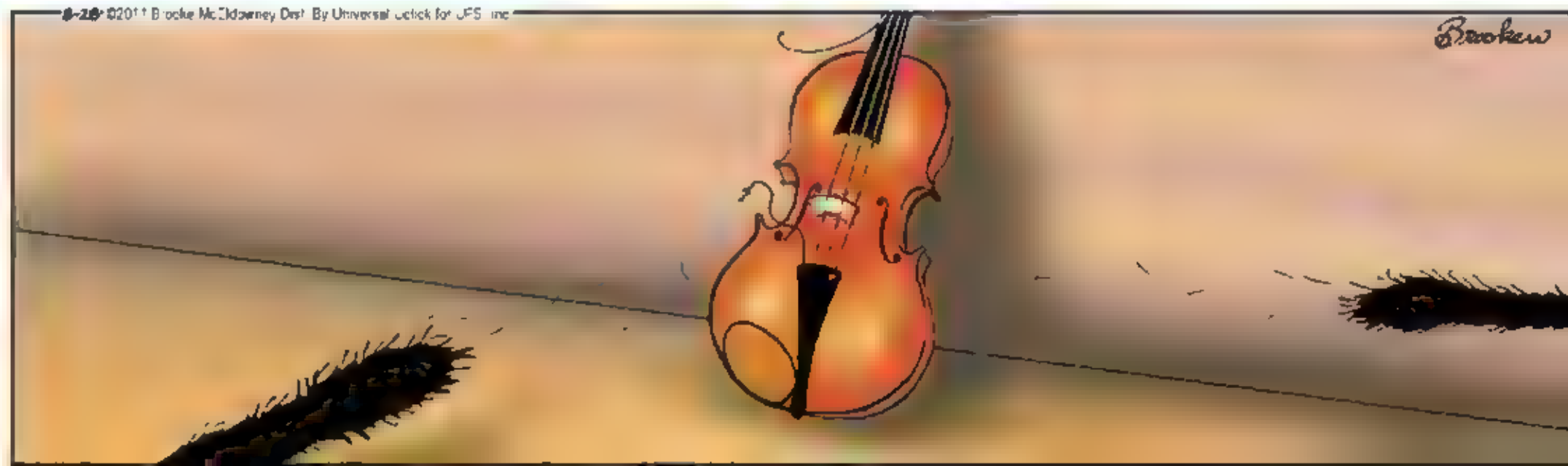
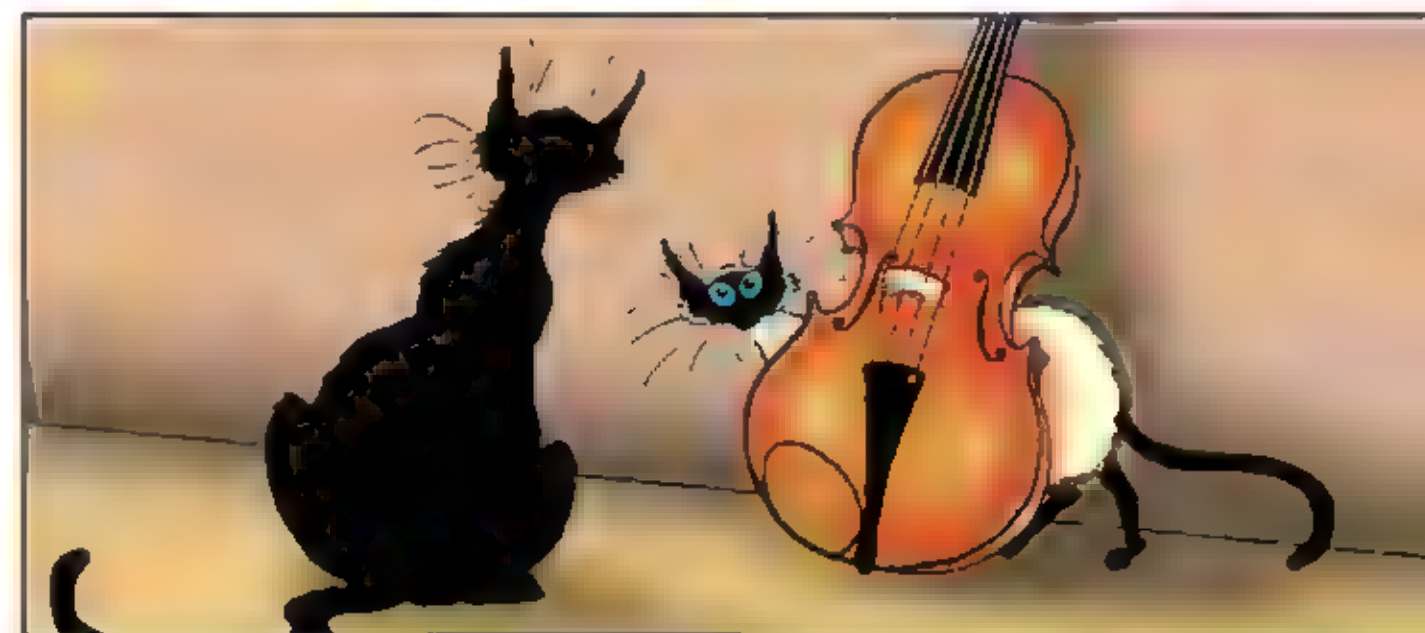
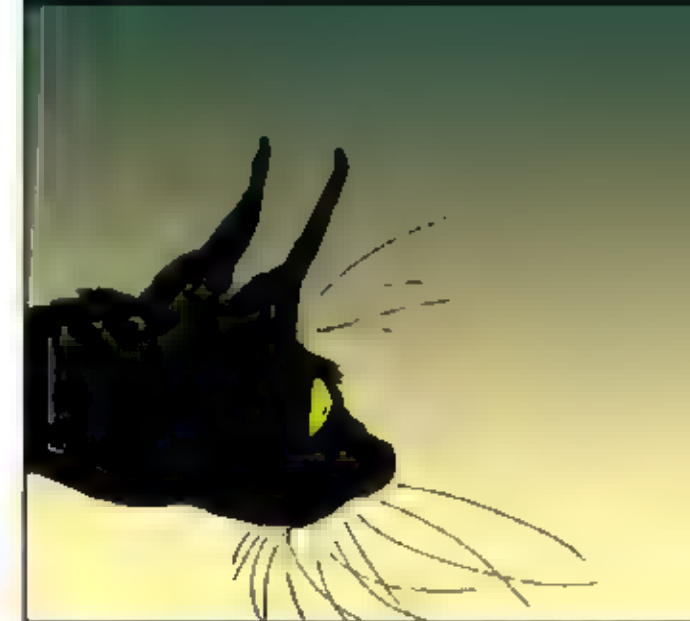












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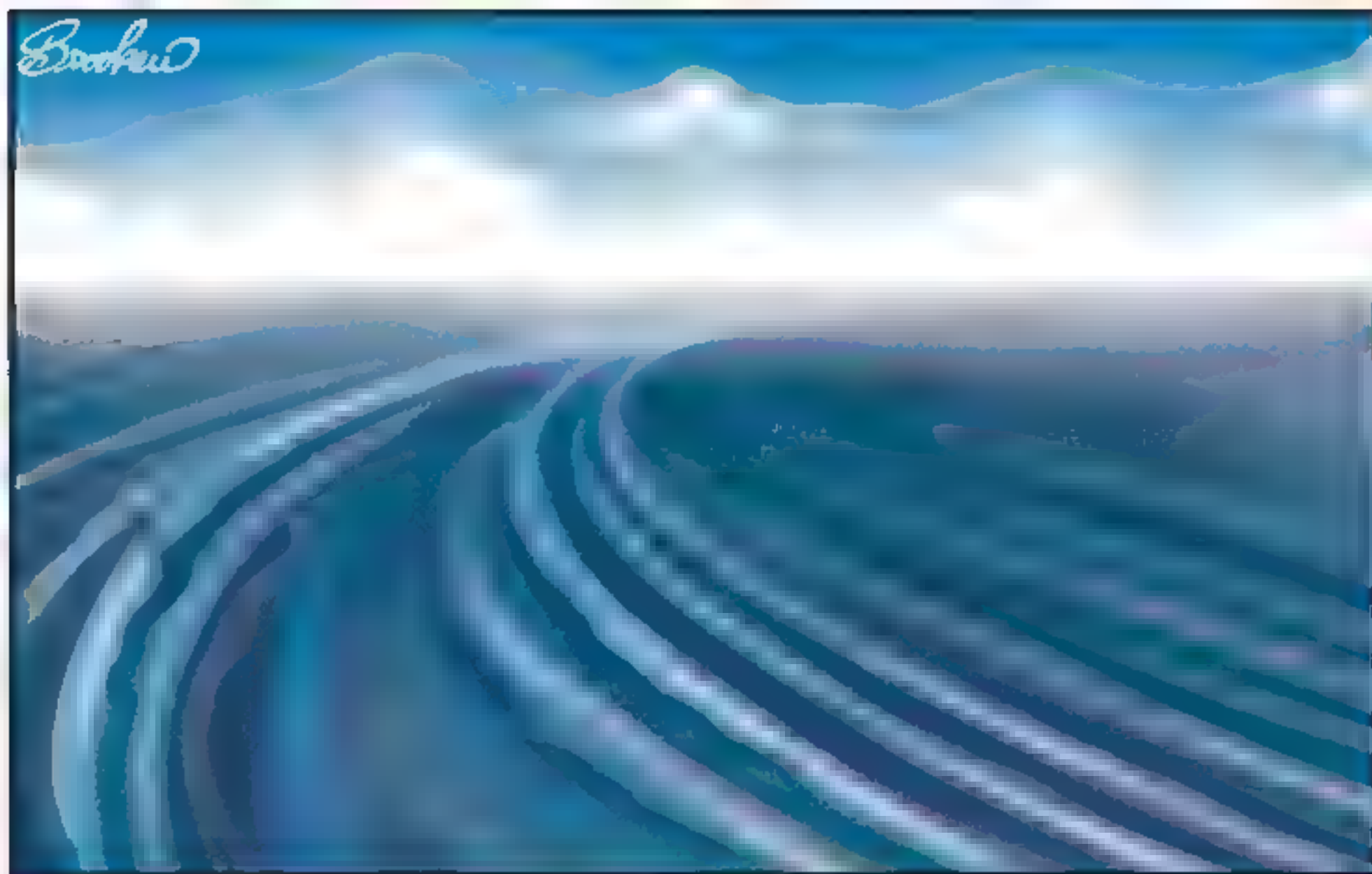
Brooke

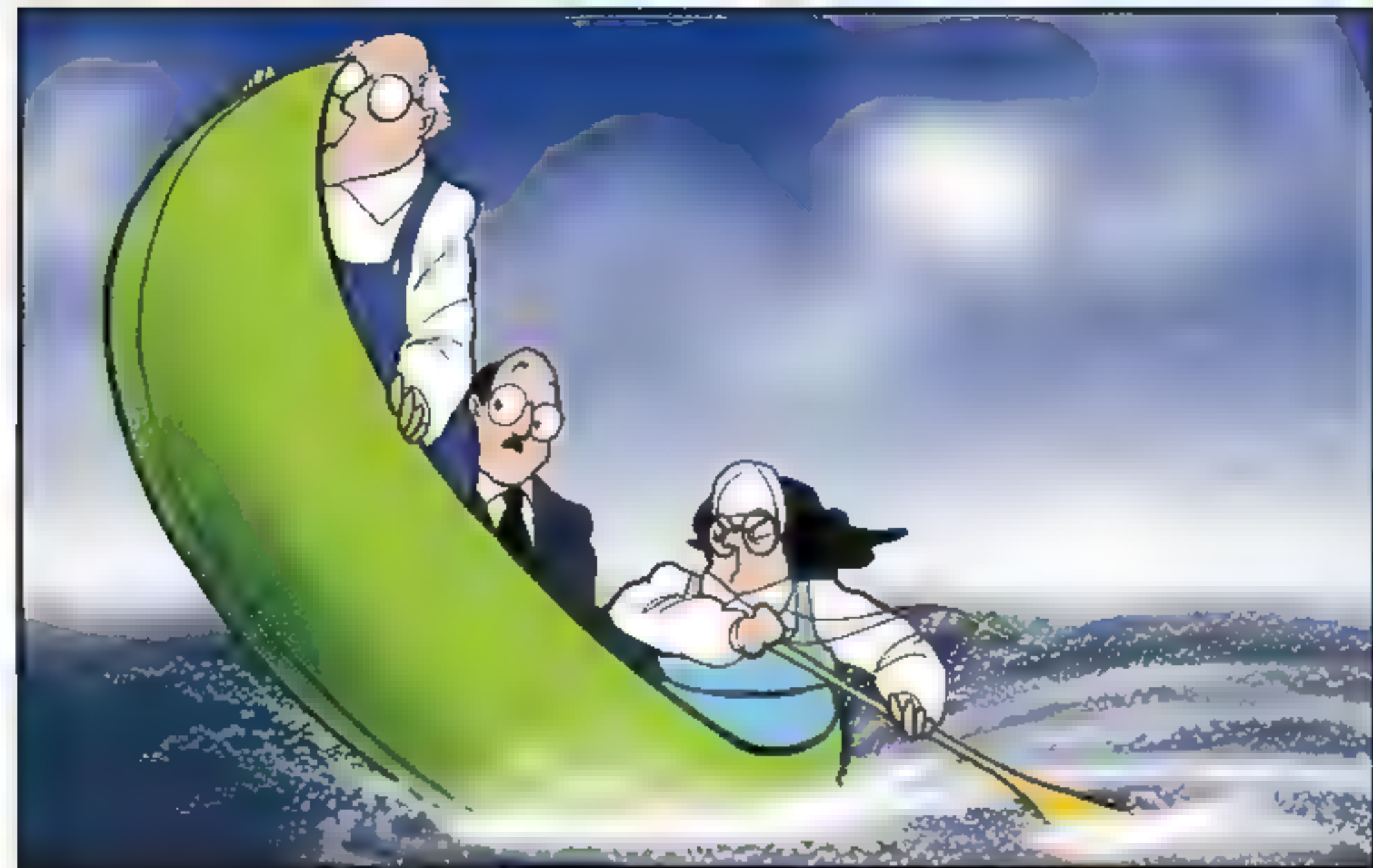
HOW LONG IS THIS STUPID
OUT-OF-BODY DELUSION
GOING TO TAKE? DIANE IS IN
LABOR, AND I'M SUPPOSED
TO BE HELPING HER.



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IT'S REALLY UP TO YOU.
...YOU'RE THE ONE HOLDING
THE OAR, AND...





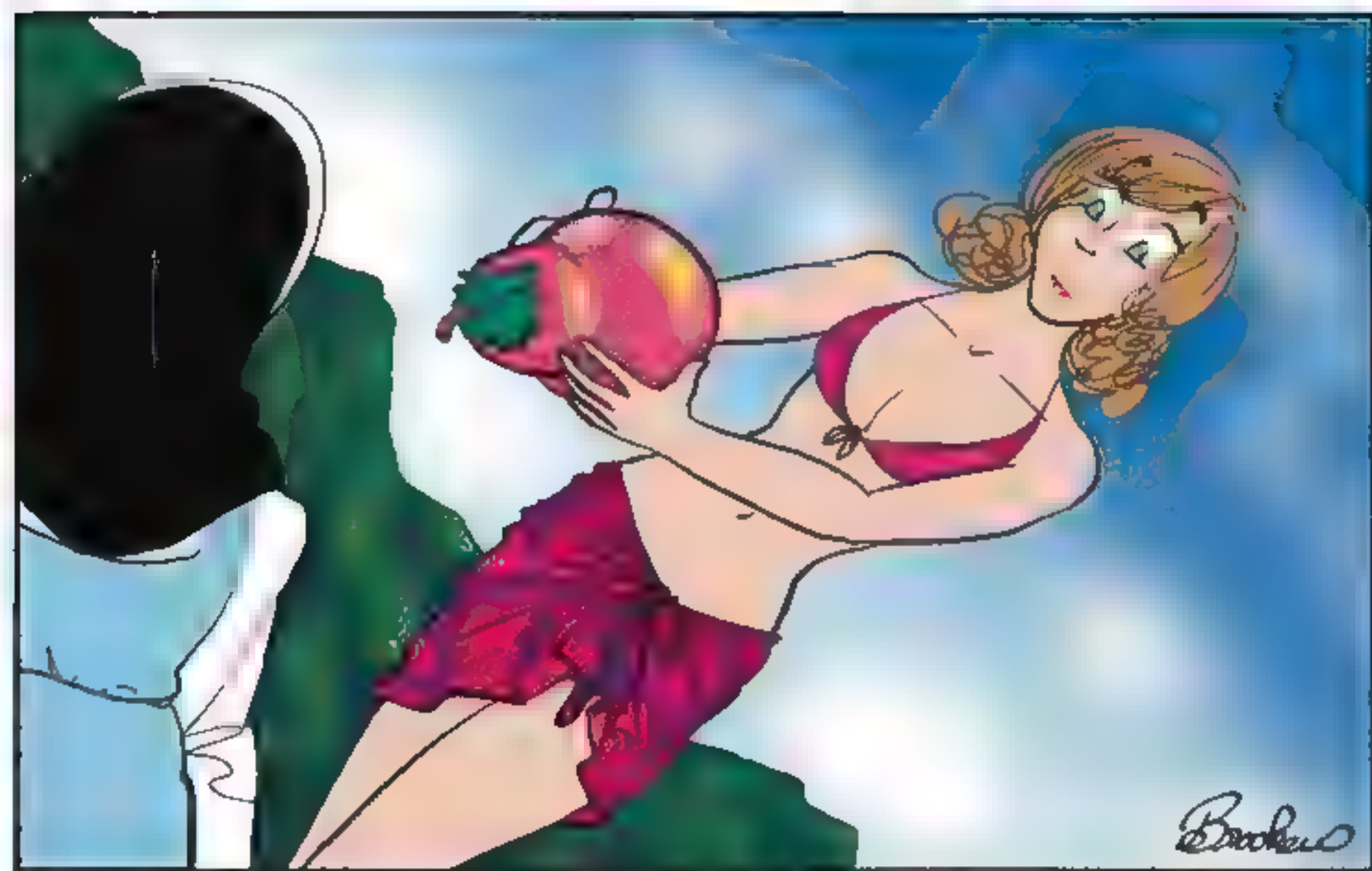
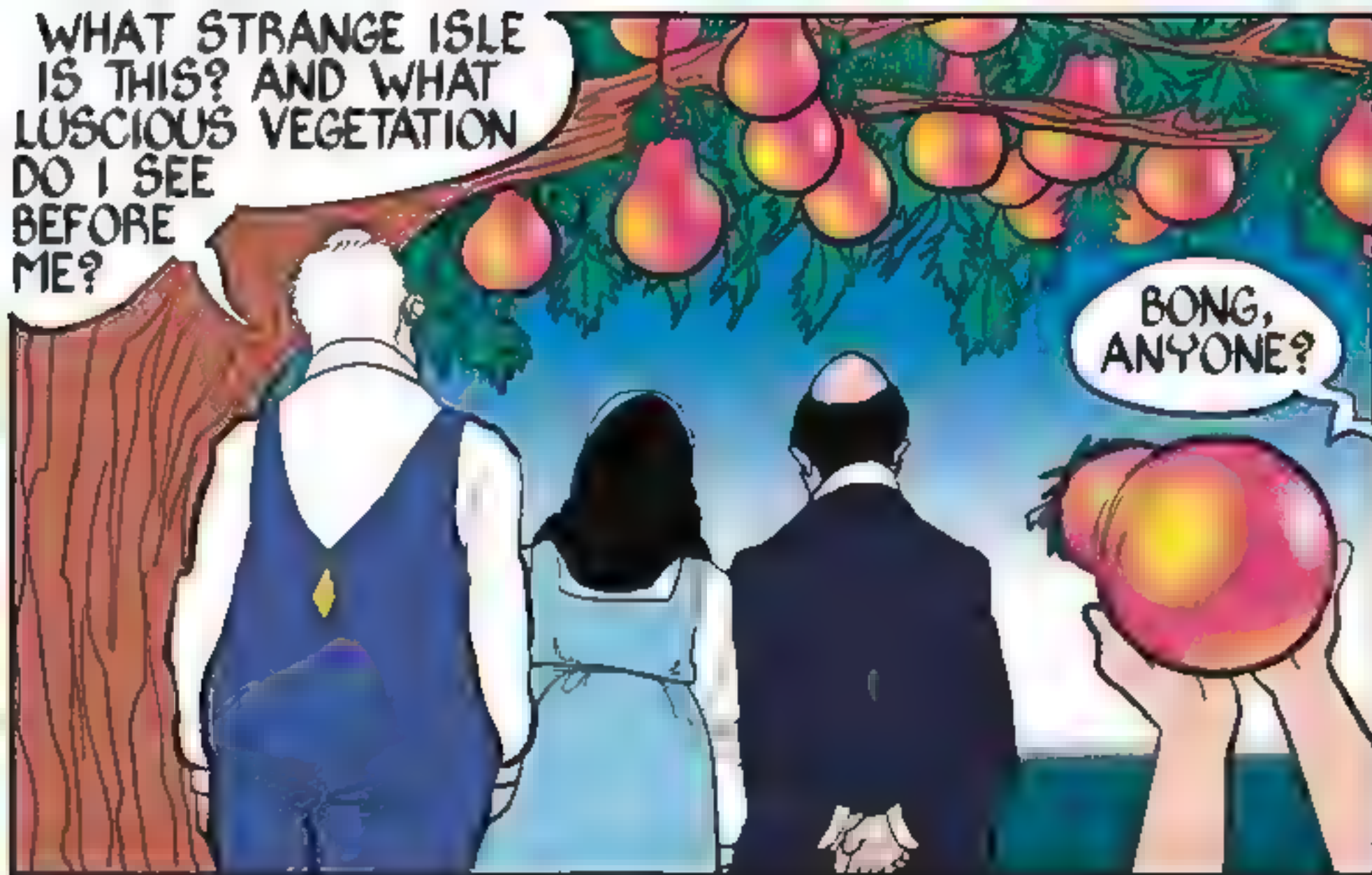
HOLD ON, MONTY. I THINK
I SEE IT,
ON THE
FAR
HORIZON.

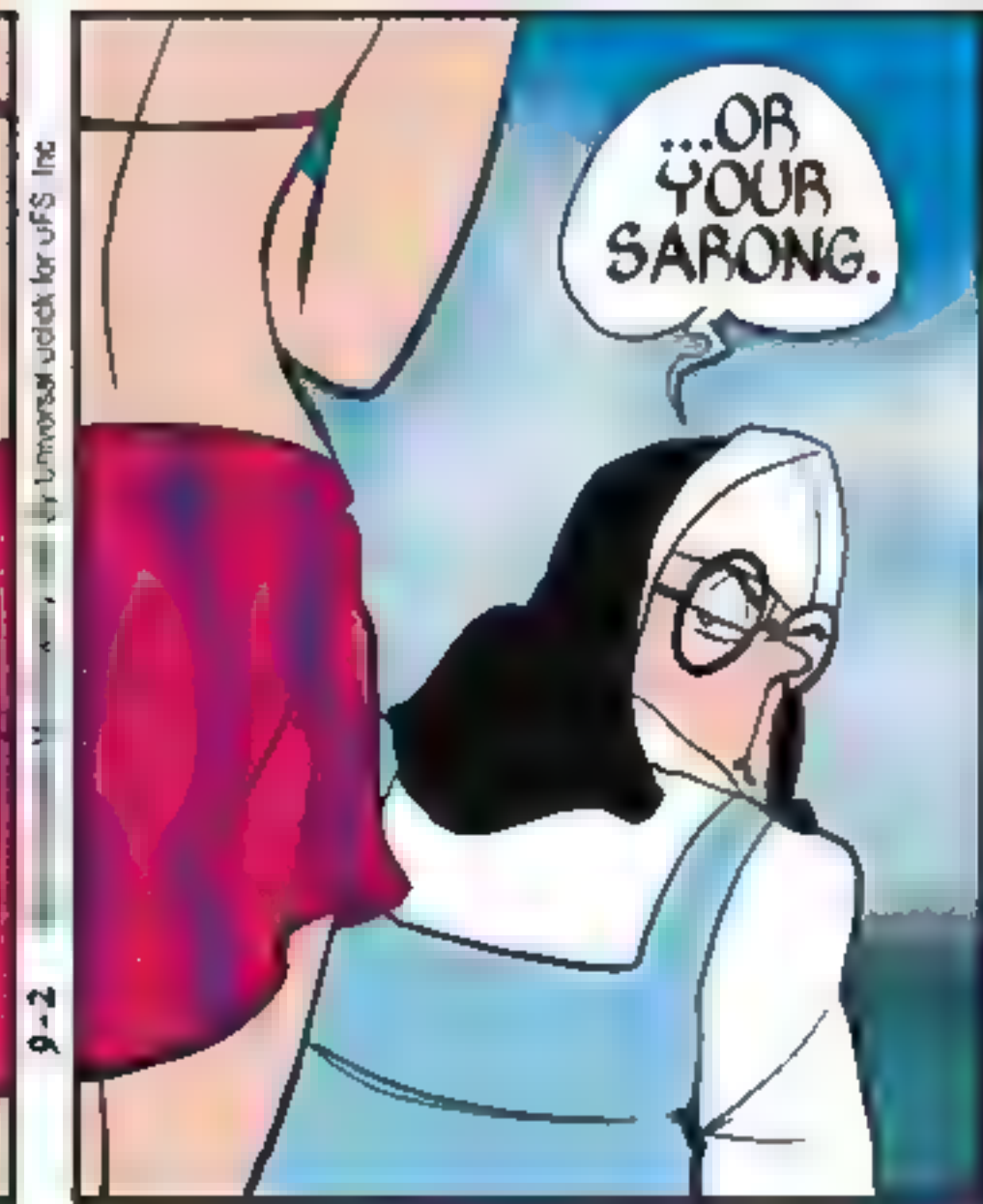
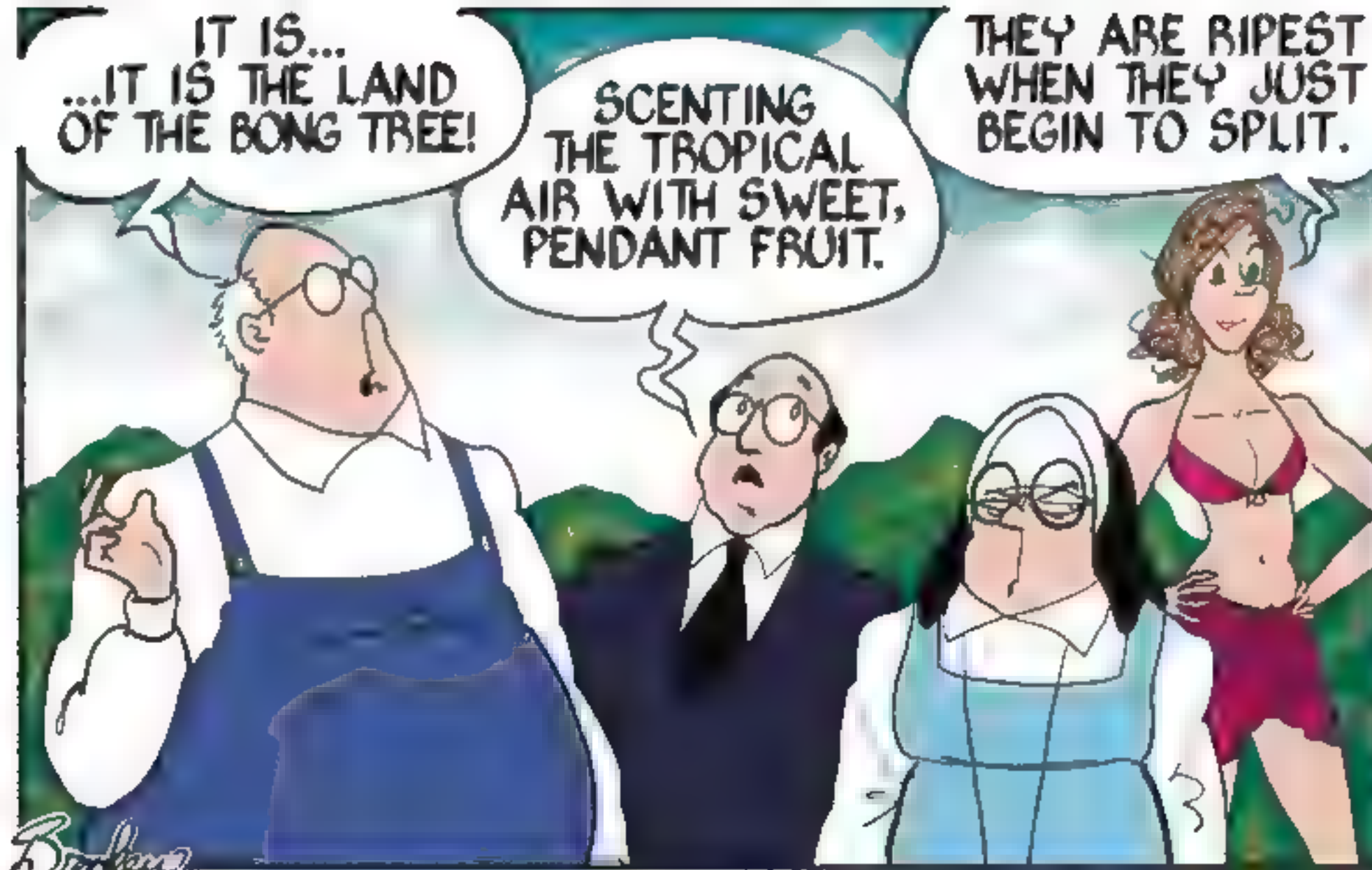
...LAND...

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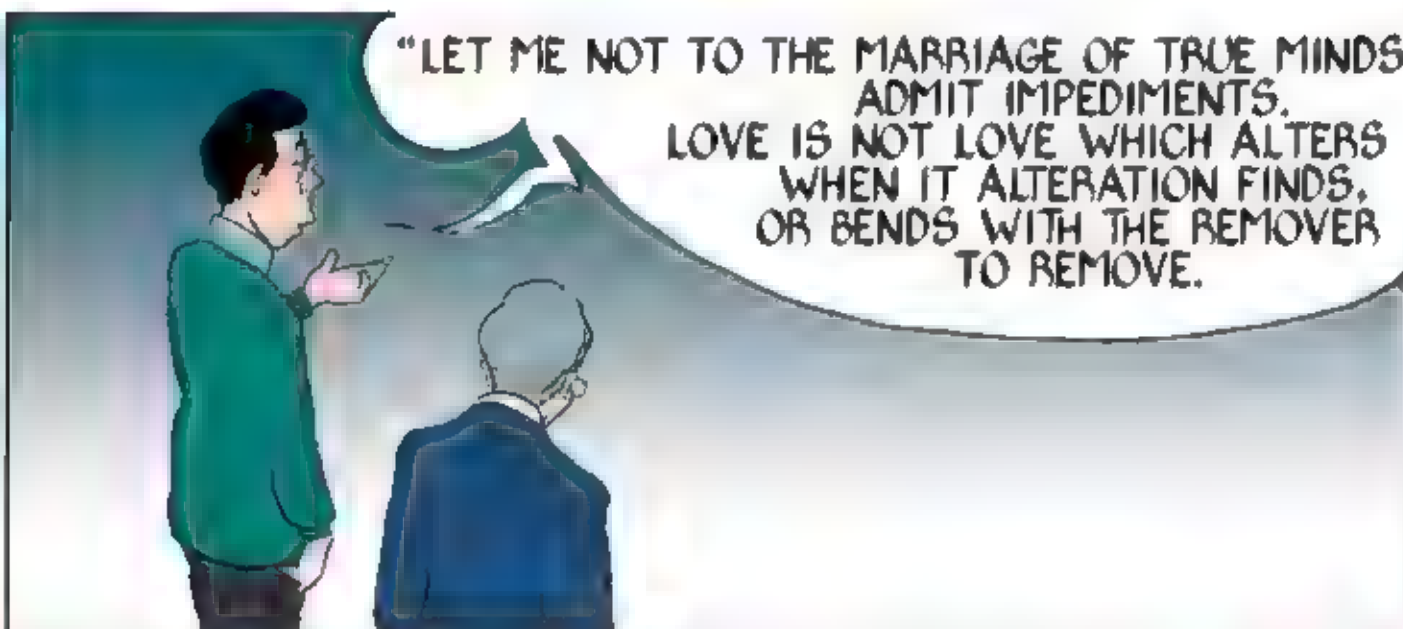
8-31



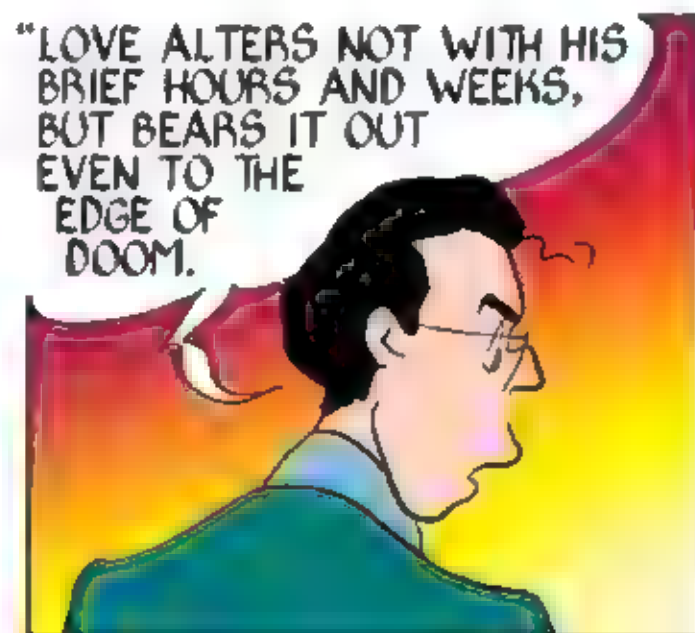
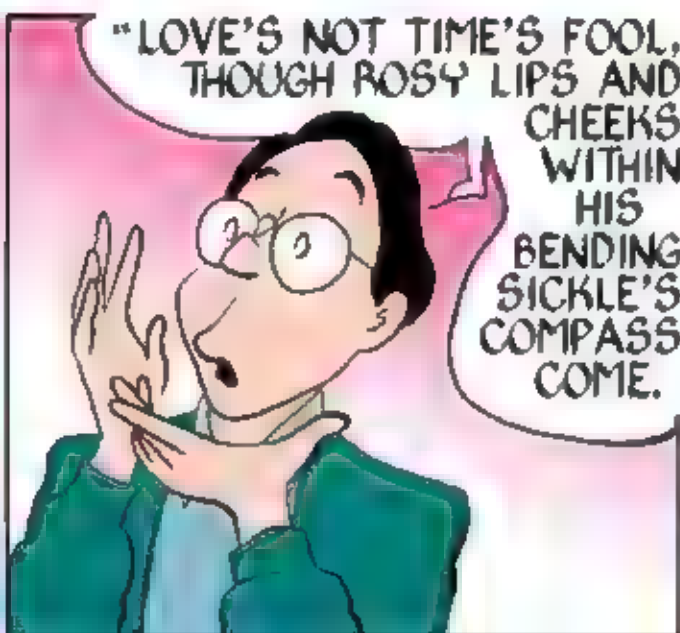




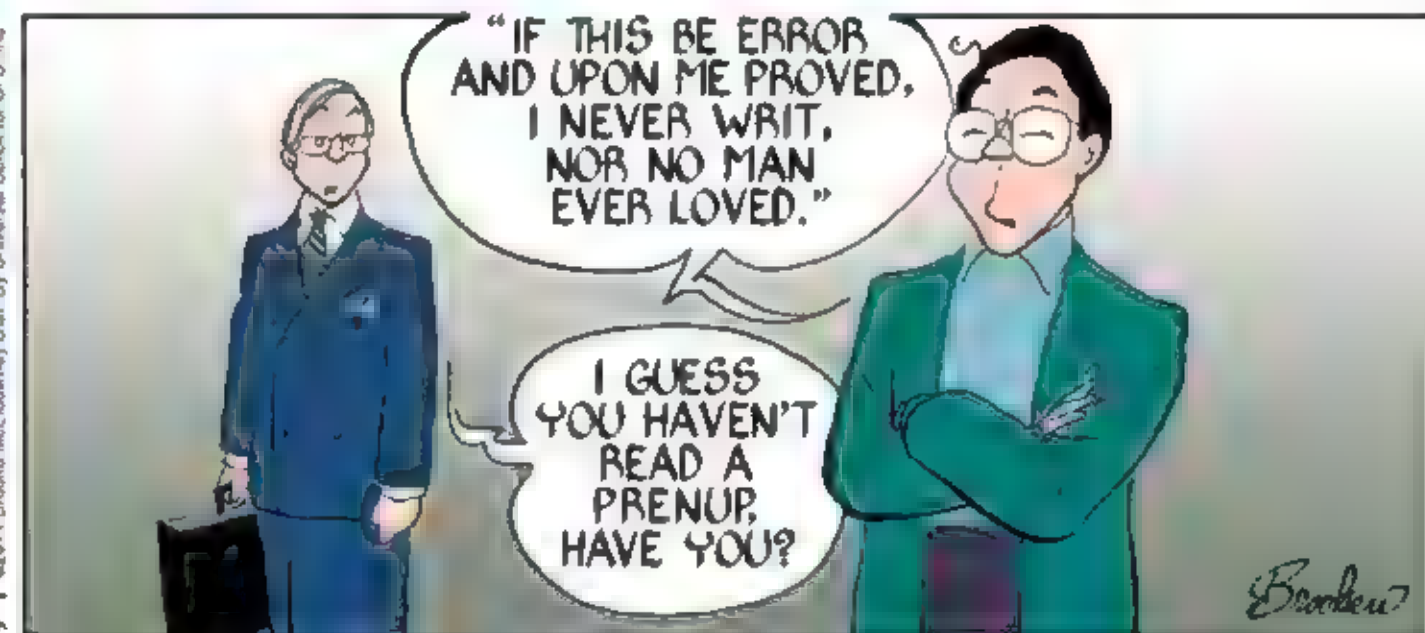


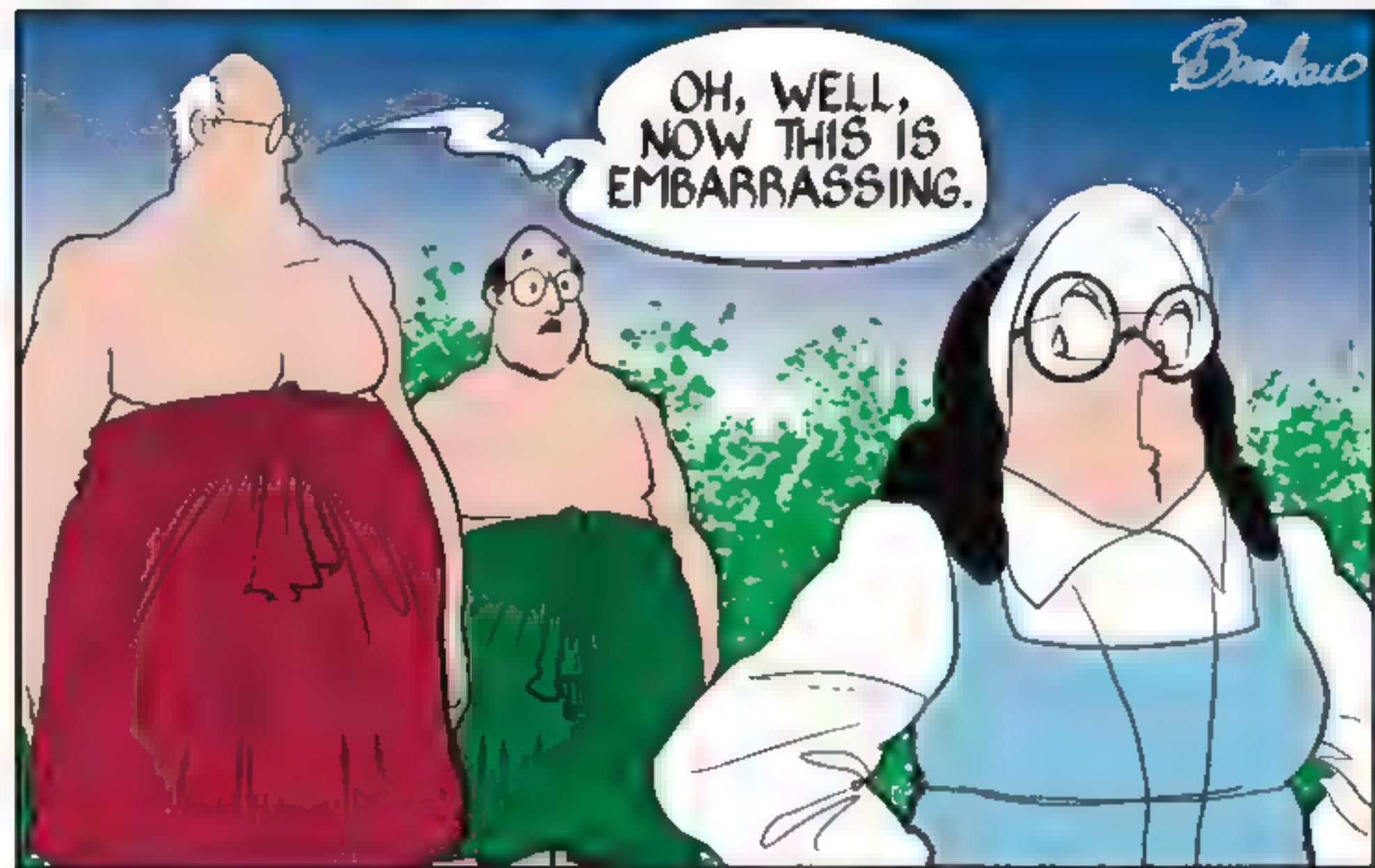


Shakespeare, Sonnet 116



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ALRIGHT, ALRIGHT...IF THIS IS
AN OUT-OF-BODY EXPERIENCE,
WHERE IS MY
ACTUAL
BODY?

YOU ARE IN DIANE'S
HOSPITAL ROOM,
HAVING YOUR HAND
SQUEEZED DURING
CONTRACTIONS.
AND IT ISN'T DOING
YOUR KNOBBLY
OLD KNUCKLES
ANY GOOD
AT ALL.

I'LL
THANK YOU
TO LEAVE MY
KNOBBLY OLD
KNUCKLES OUT
OF THIS.

YOU CAN DO MORE THAN
HOLD MY HAND...THIS IS
YOUR DELUSION, AND I AM
THE IMAGE
OF YOUR
WIFE.

NOT WITH
THE UN-NAY
ATCHING-WAY.



I LOVE YOU AND I'M FLYING
TO YOU AS QUICKLY AS I
CAN, AIRPORT DELAYS
NOTWITH-
STANDING.

WELL,
IF YOU DON'T
NEED ME AT
THE MOMENT...

HOLD MY SARONG WHILE
I TAKE A DIP IN THE
SEA, THE SEA...

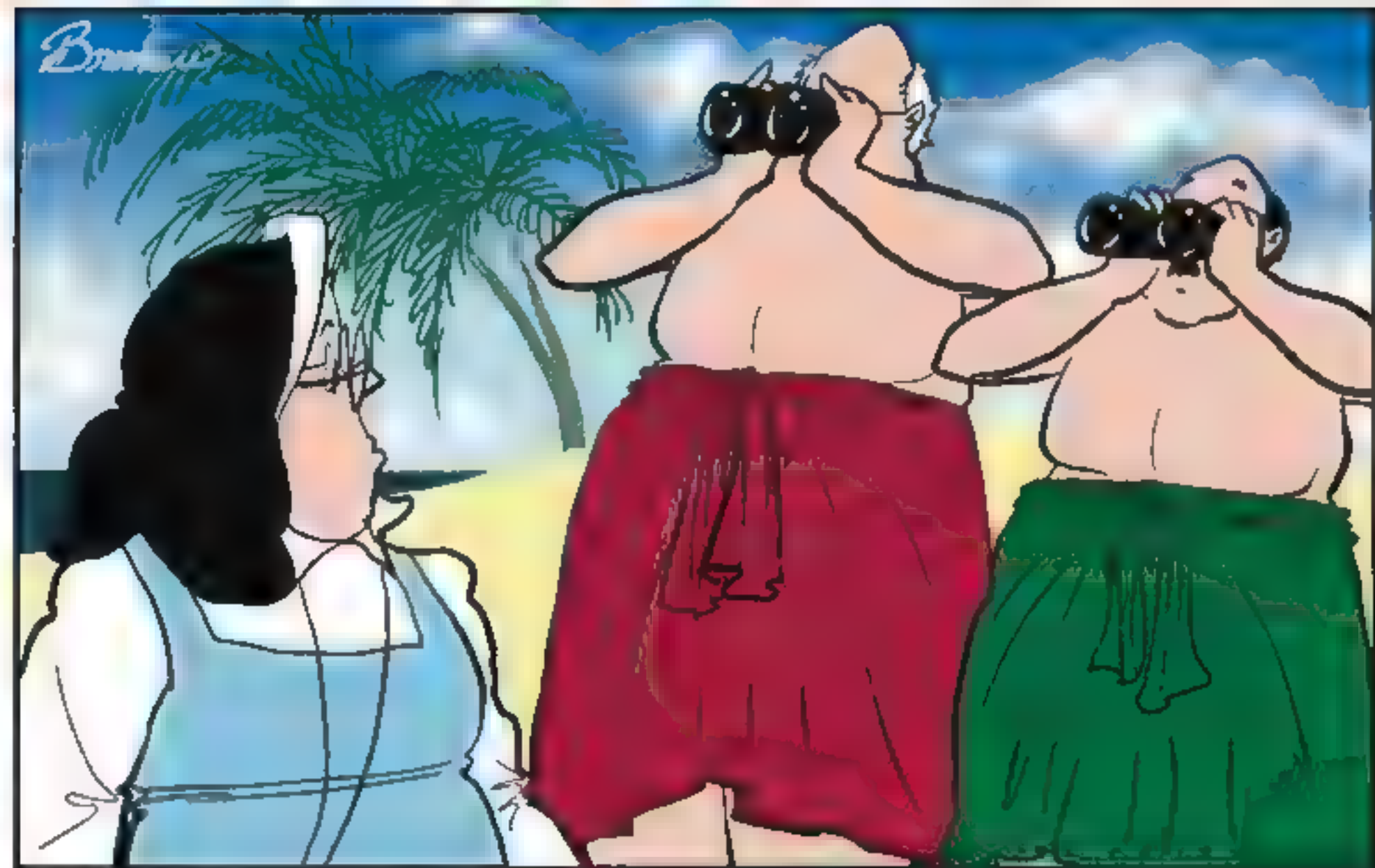
...WHILE
I TAKE A DIP
IN THE SEA.



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Brooke



I MUST BE HAVING
A DREAM.

WHAT MAKES
YOU SAY THAT?

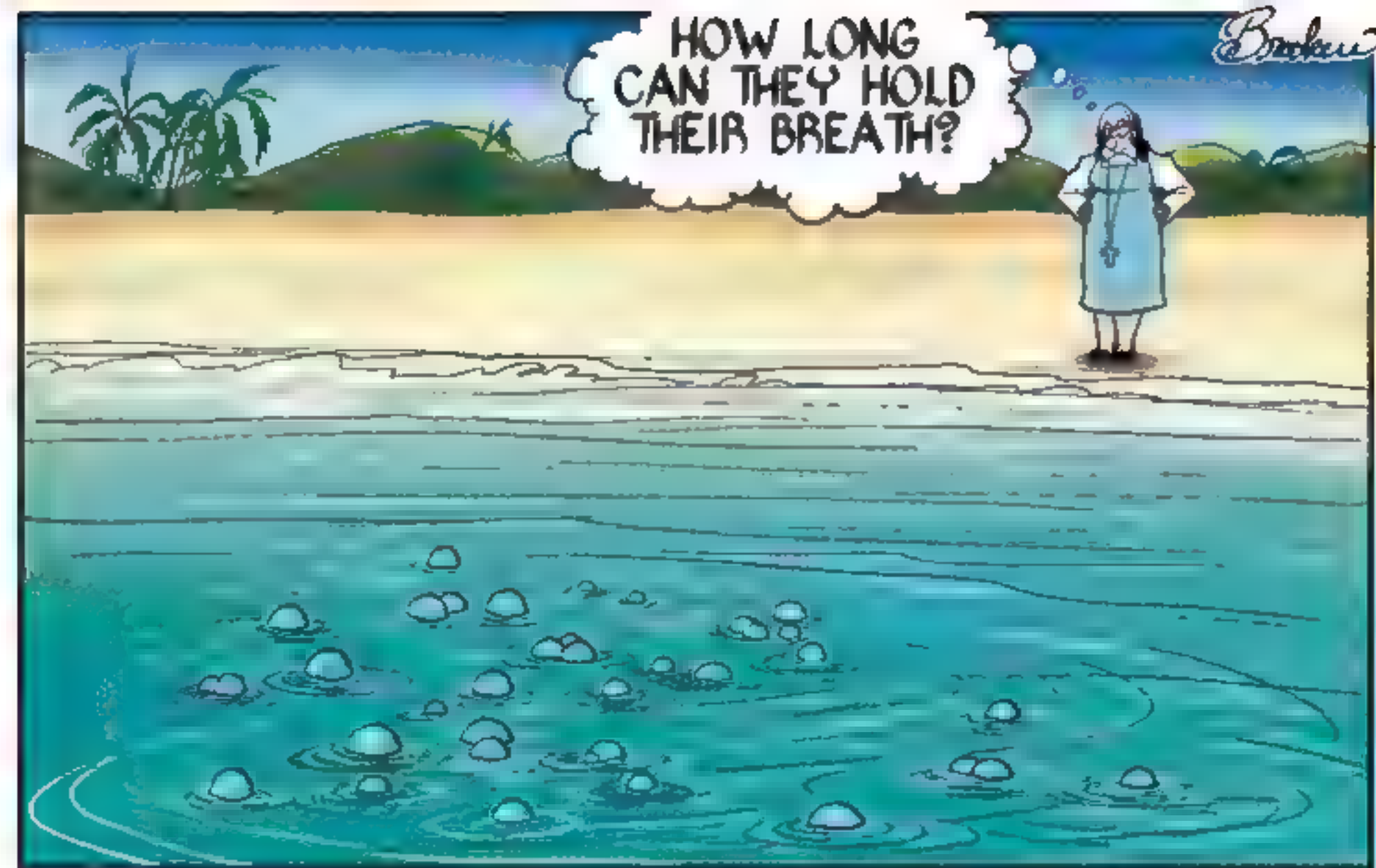
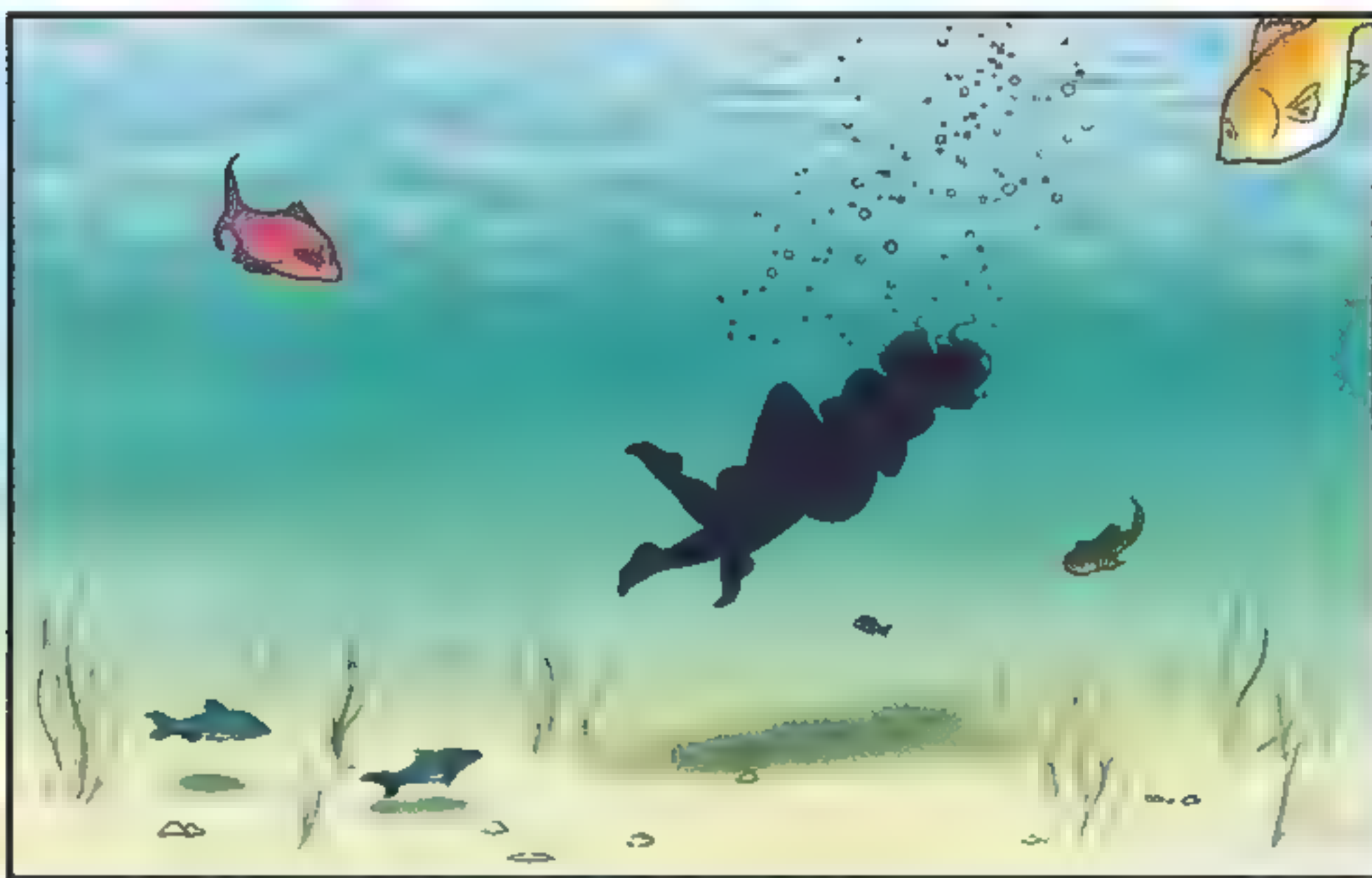
BECAUSE I'M
STANDING HERE
UP TO MY WAIST
IN WATER, AND
MY SWIMMING
TRUNKS AREN'T
FILLED WITH AIR,
BALLOONING
EMBARRASSINGLY
AROUND ME.

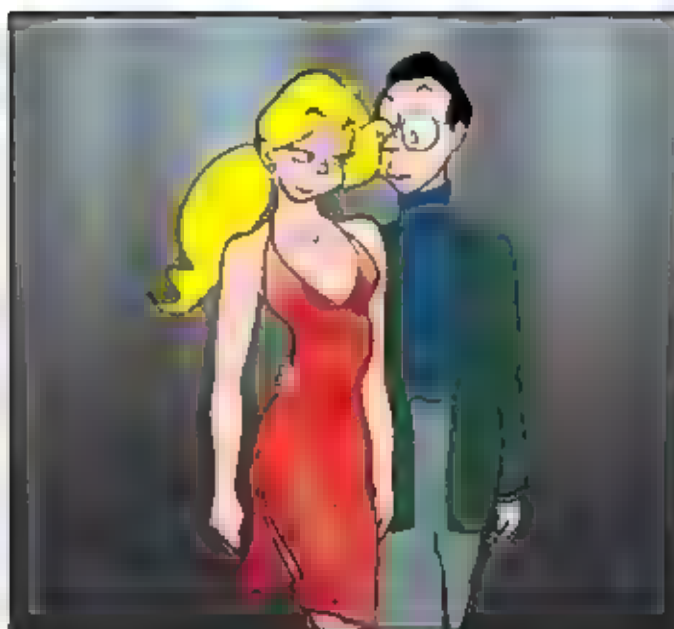
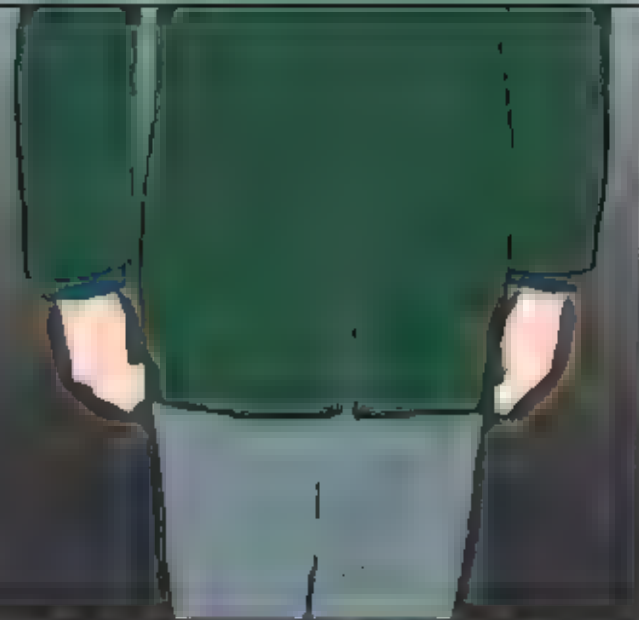
I MEANT,
WHAT MAKES
YOU THINK
THIS DREAM
IS YOURS?

...WHAT MAKES YOU THINK
IT ISN'T MINE?...AND WHAT
MAKES YOU
THINK YOU'RE
WEARING
TRUNKS?

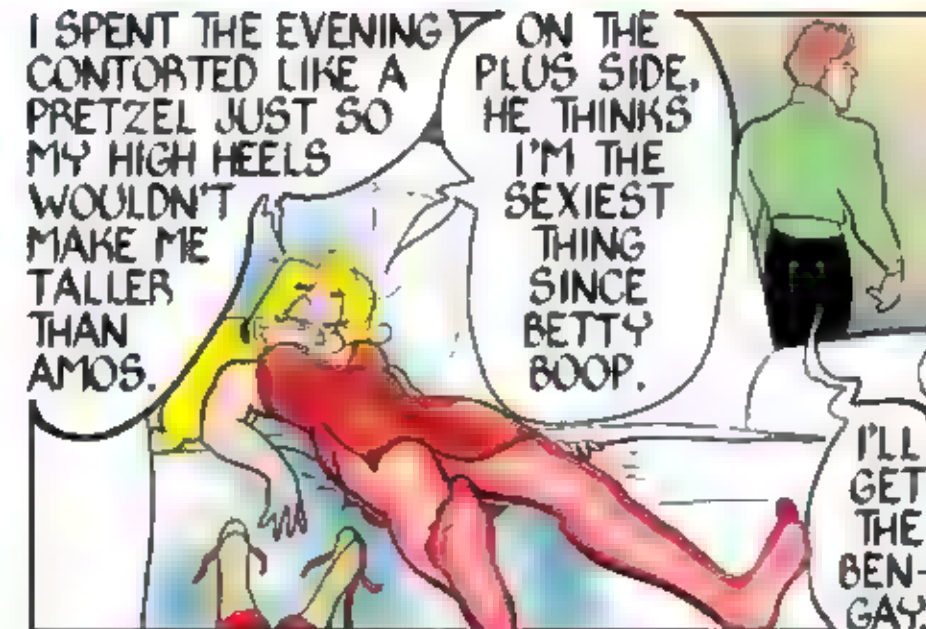
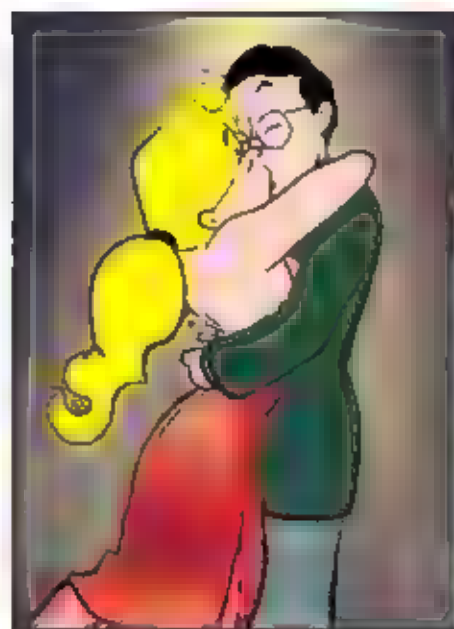
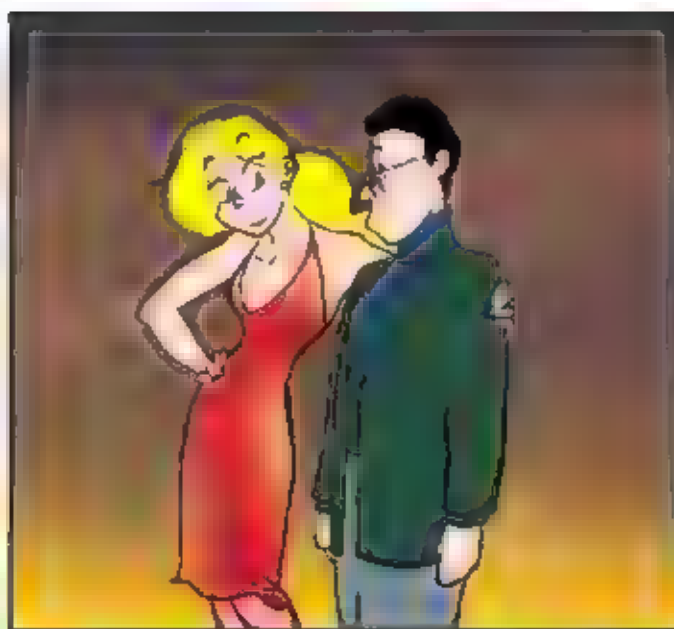
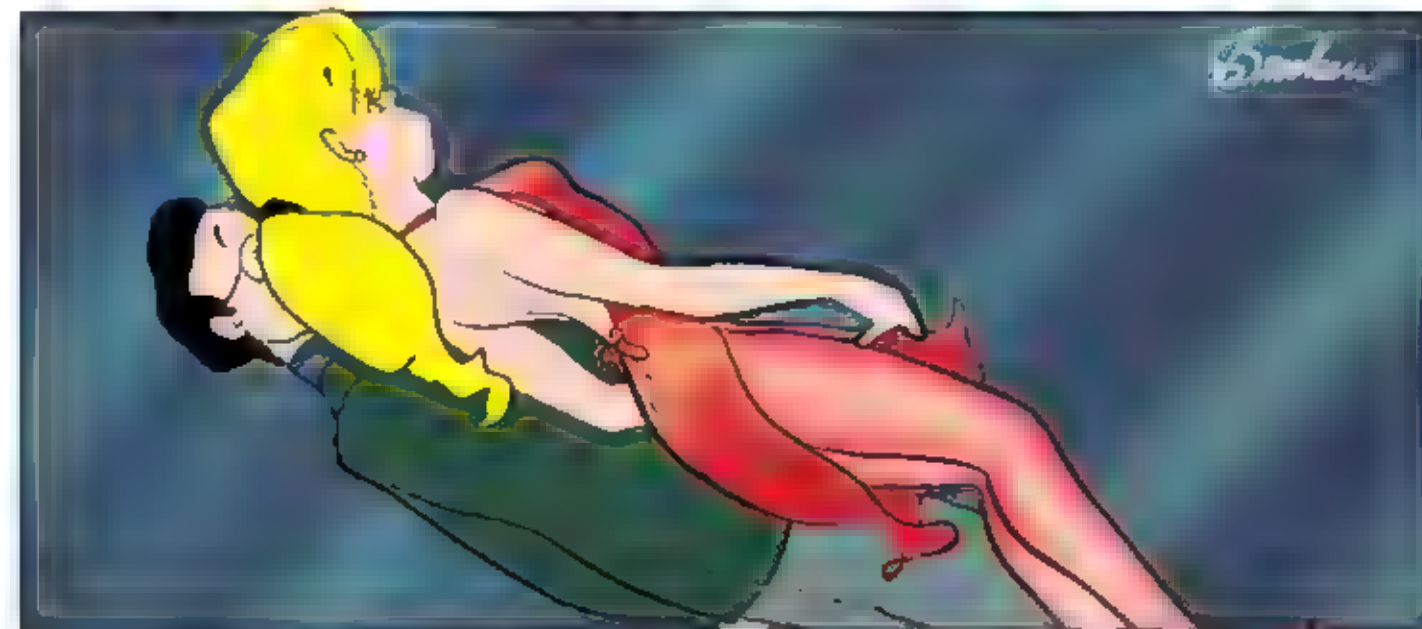
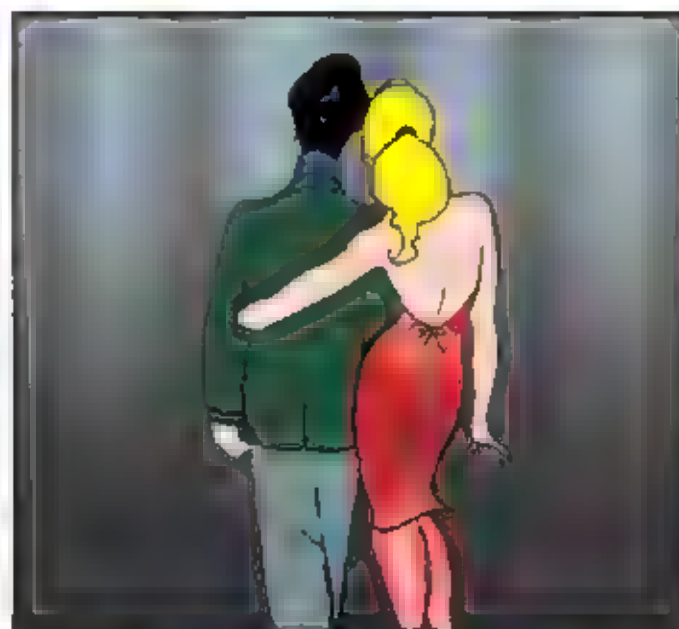
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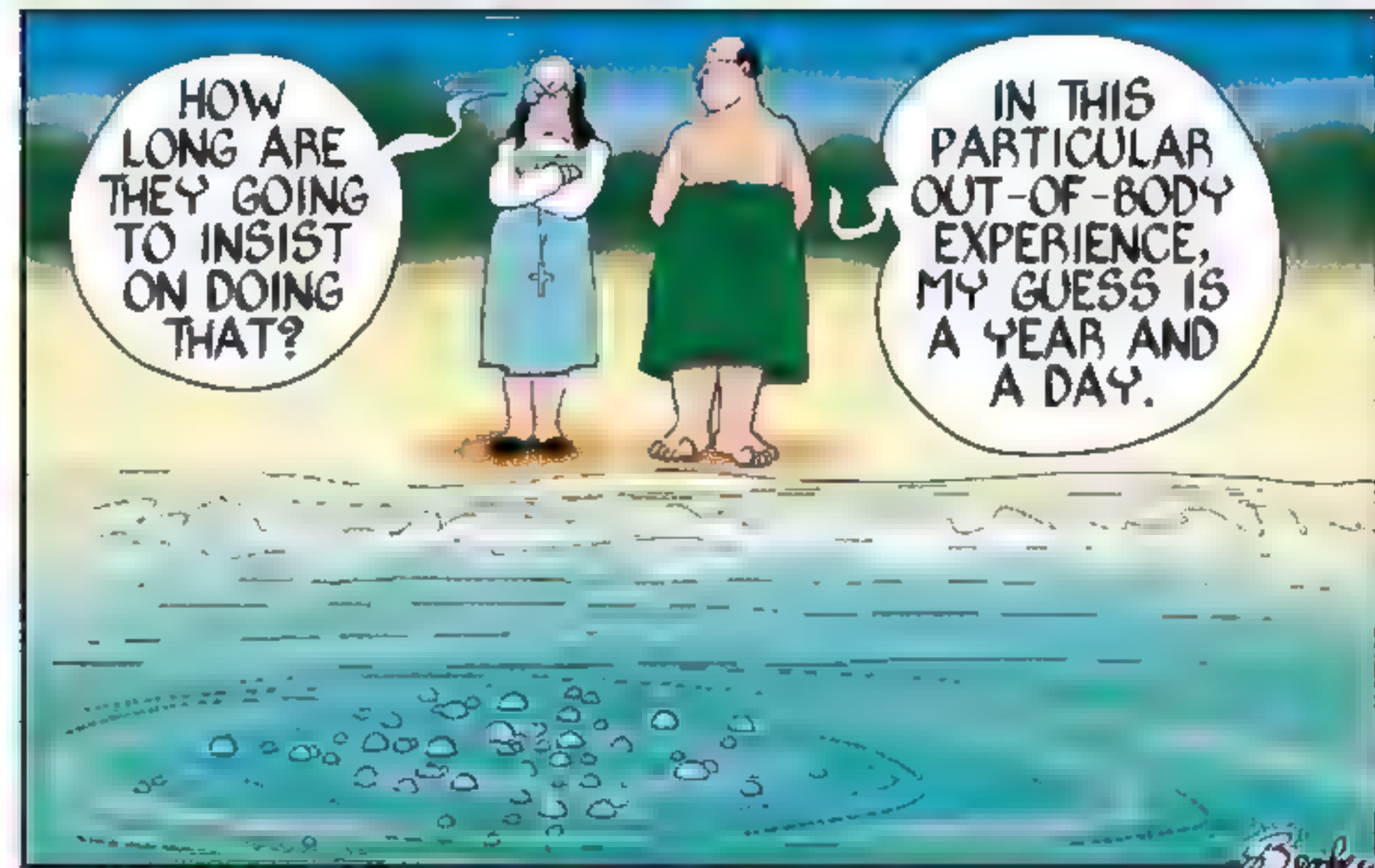
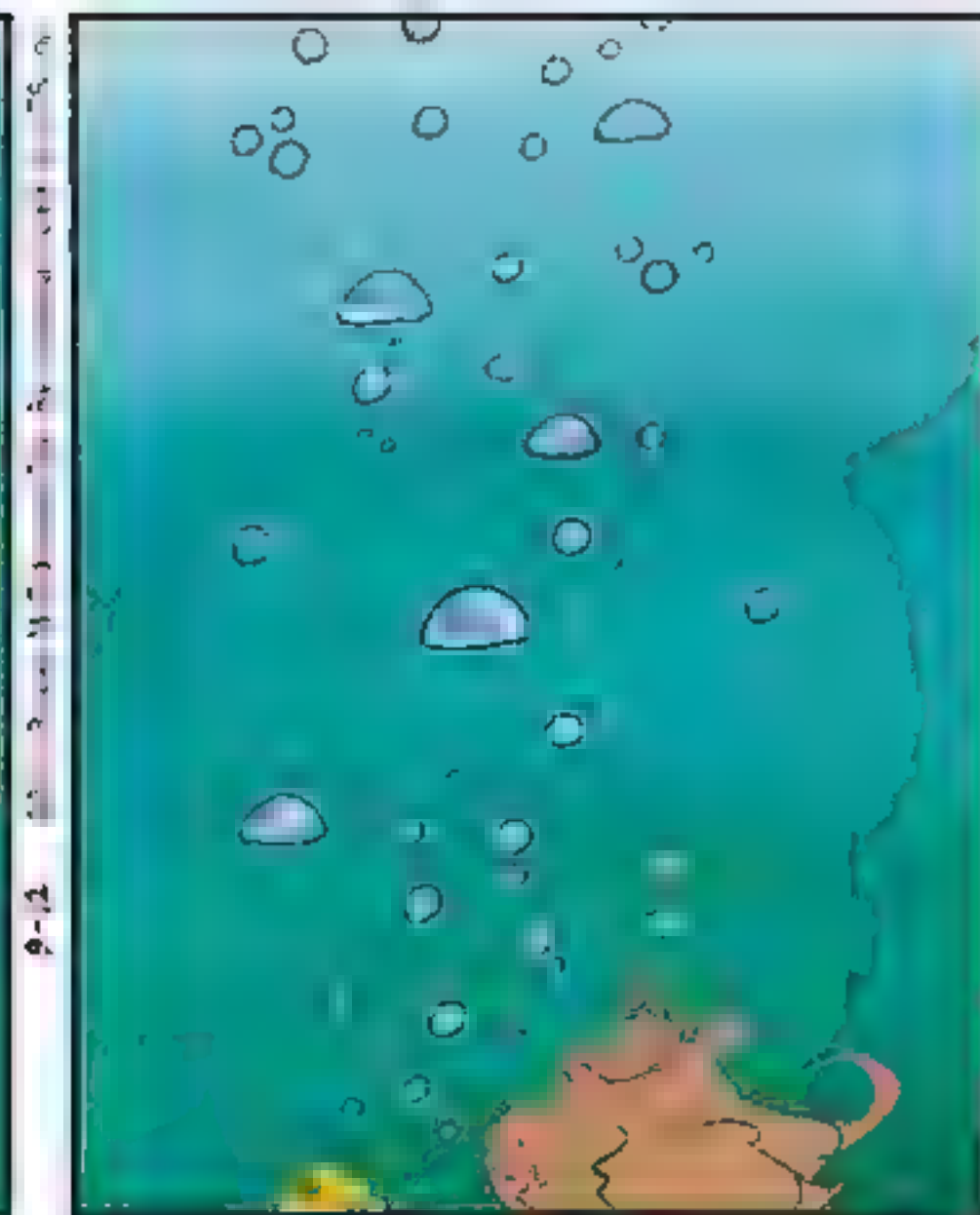
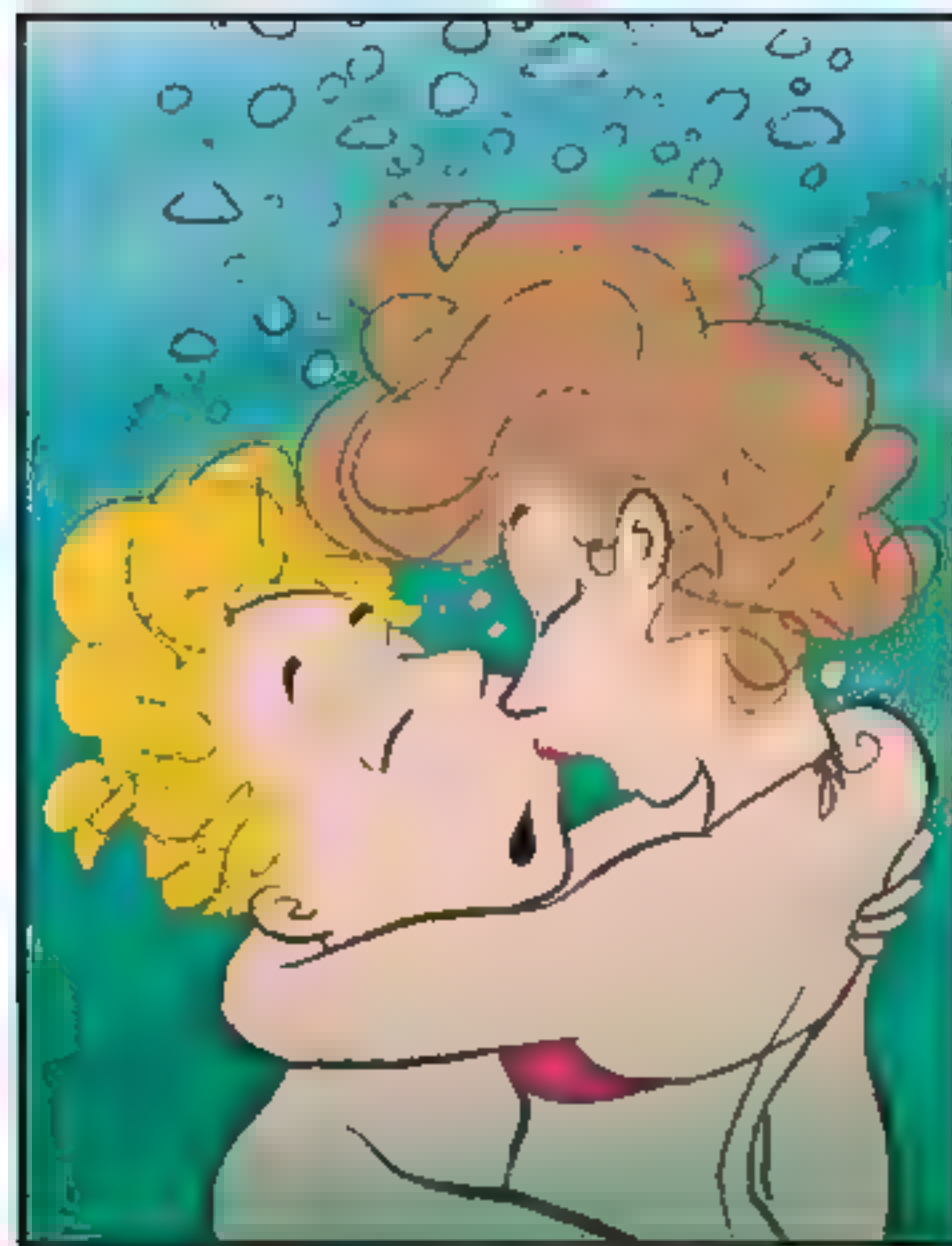
Brooke

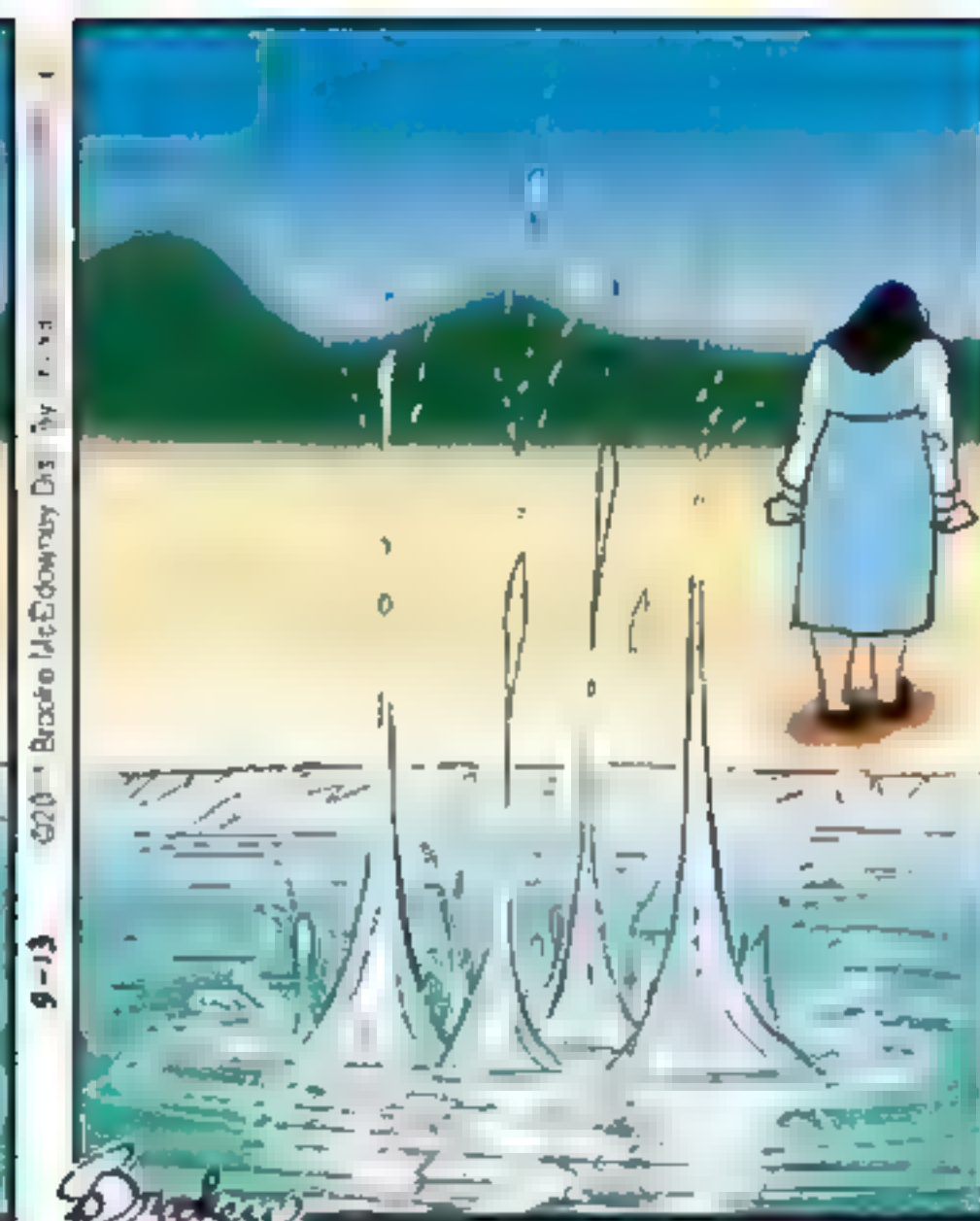
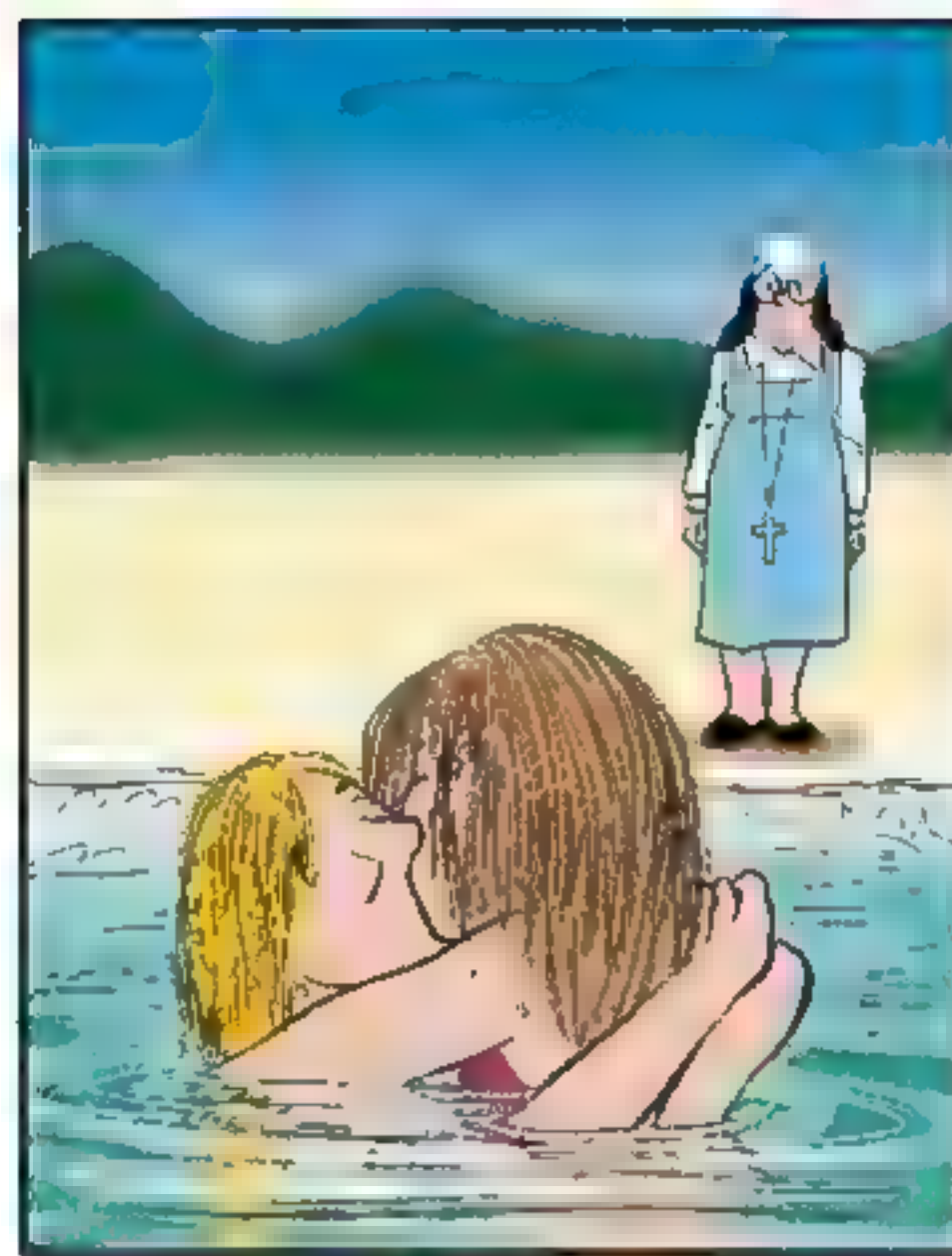




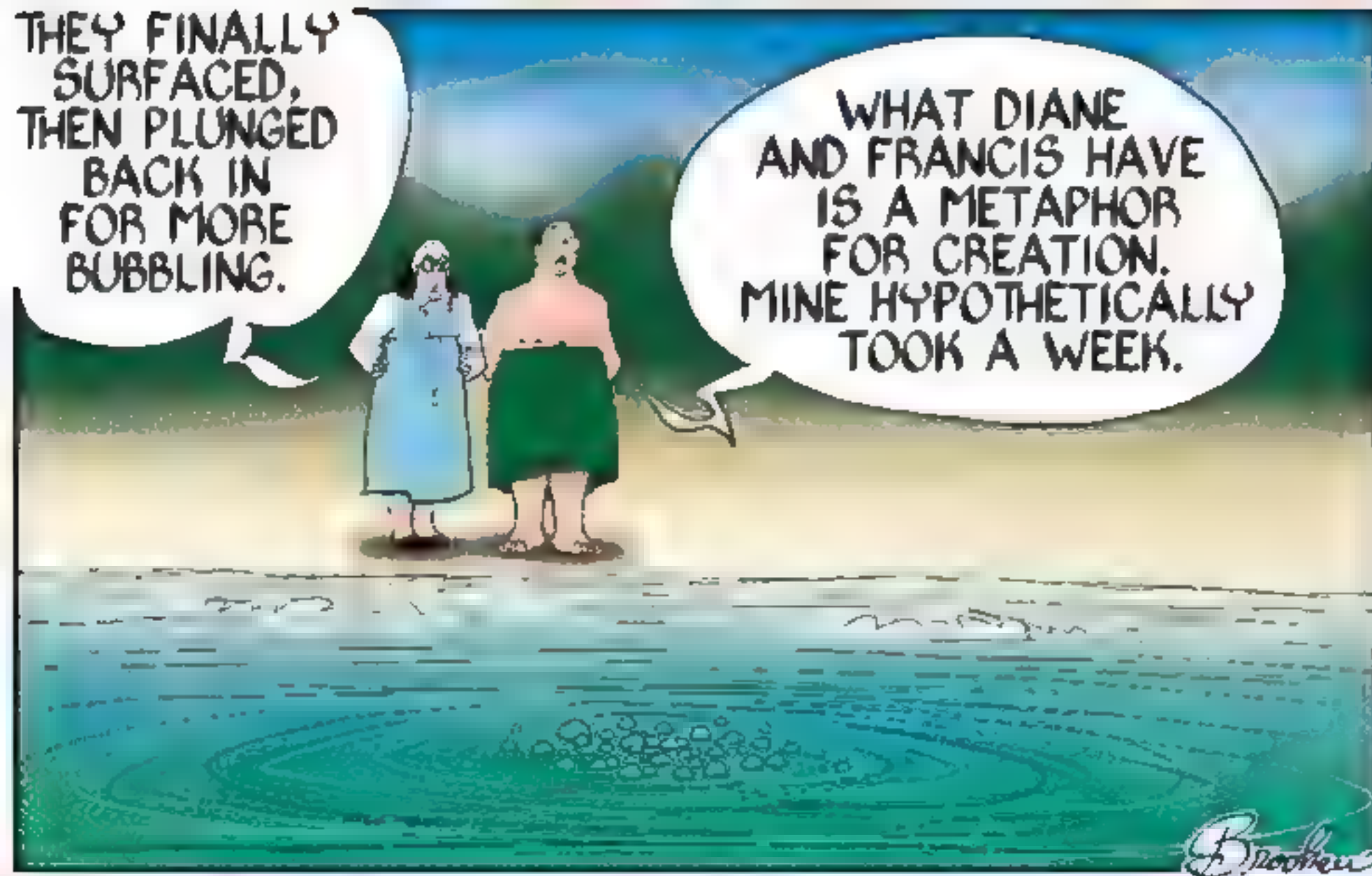
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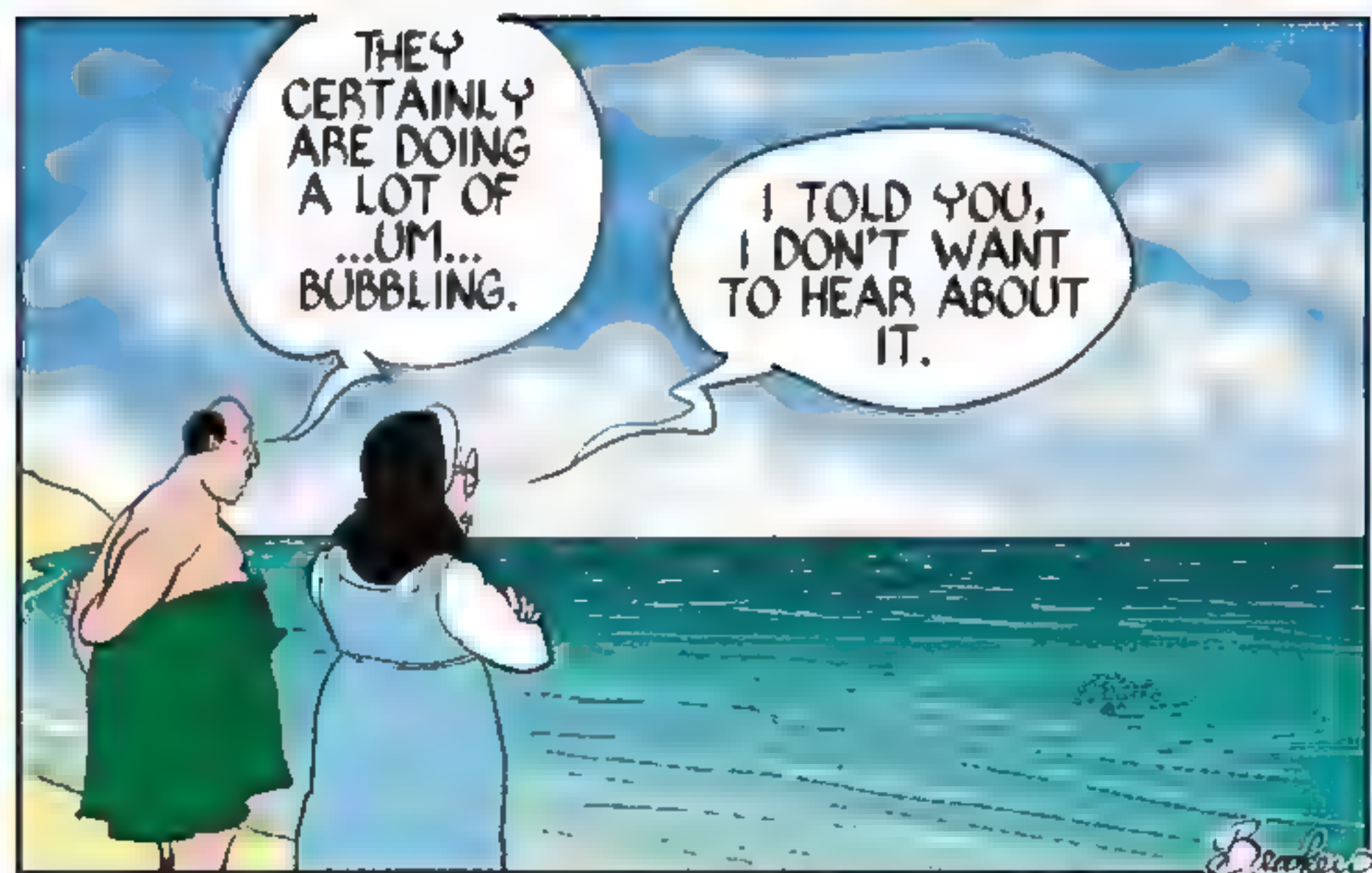






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Dinkew






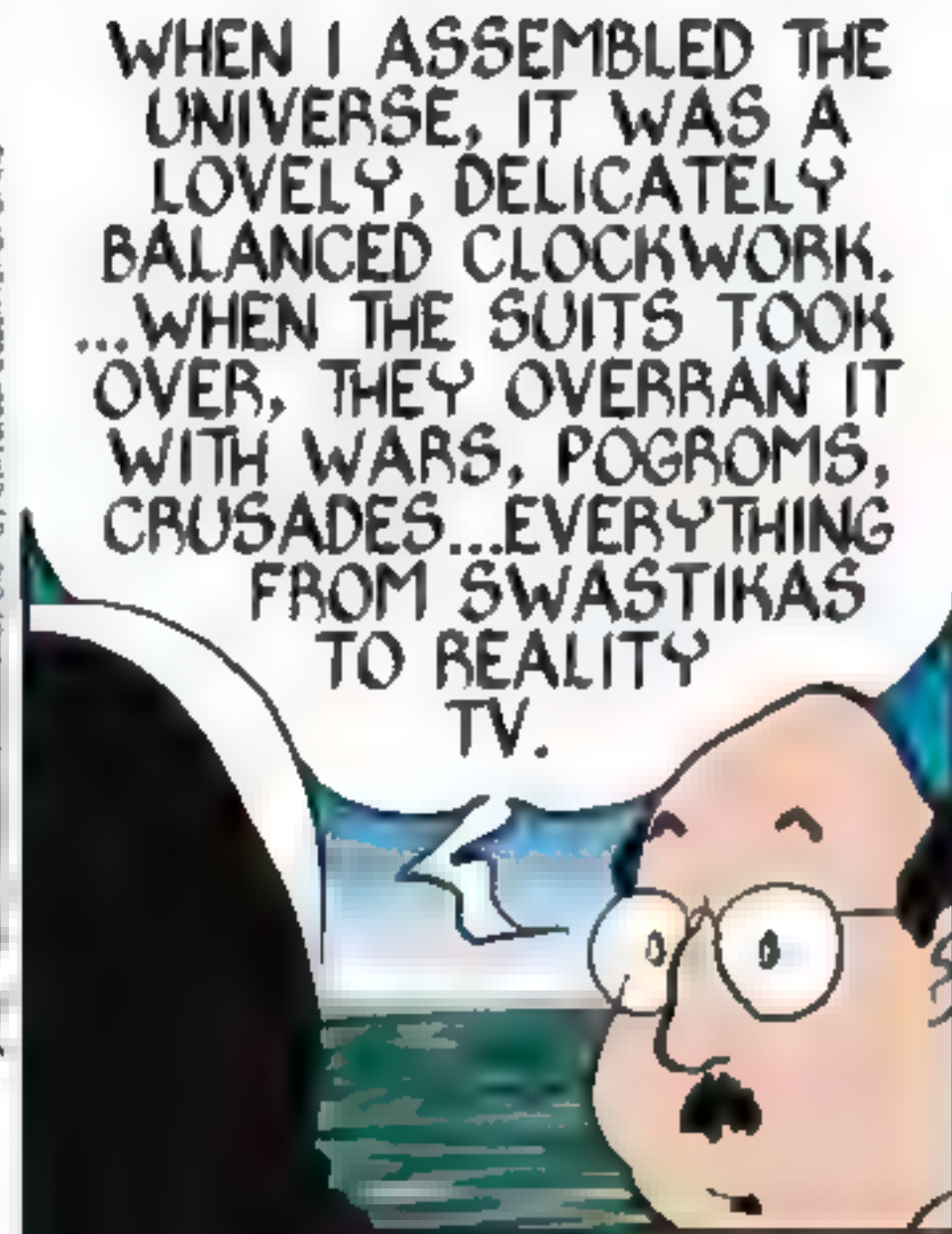
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU ARE THE ALMIGHTY CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH...BUT IF I DID, I'D OBJECT IN PRINCIPLE TO THE IDEA THAT YOU WOULD CEDE DIRECTORSHIP TO MEN IN SUITS, AND WANDER THE BEACH DRESSED ONLY IN A SARONG.

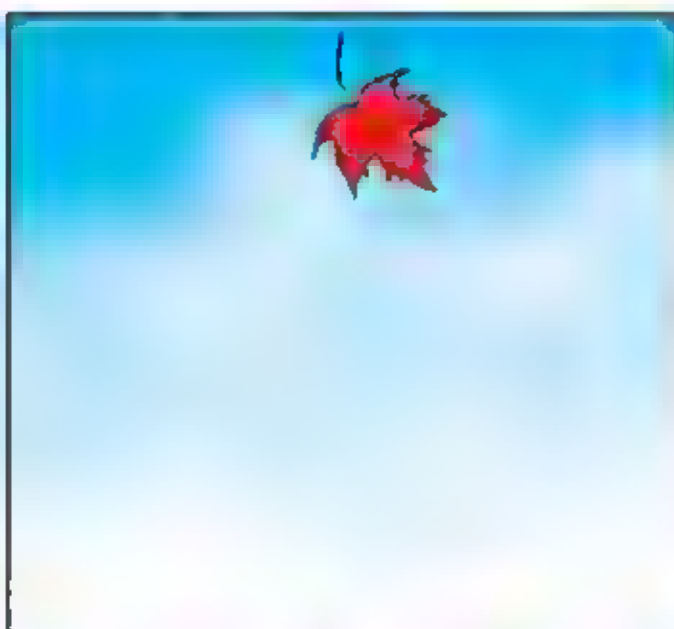
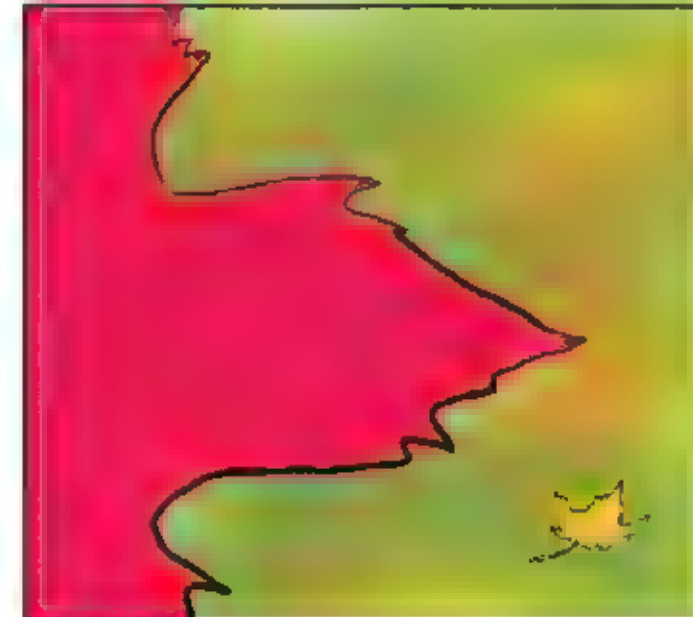
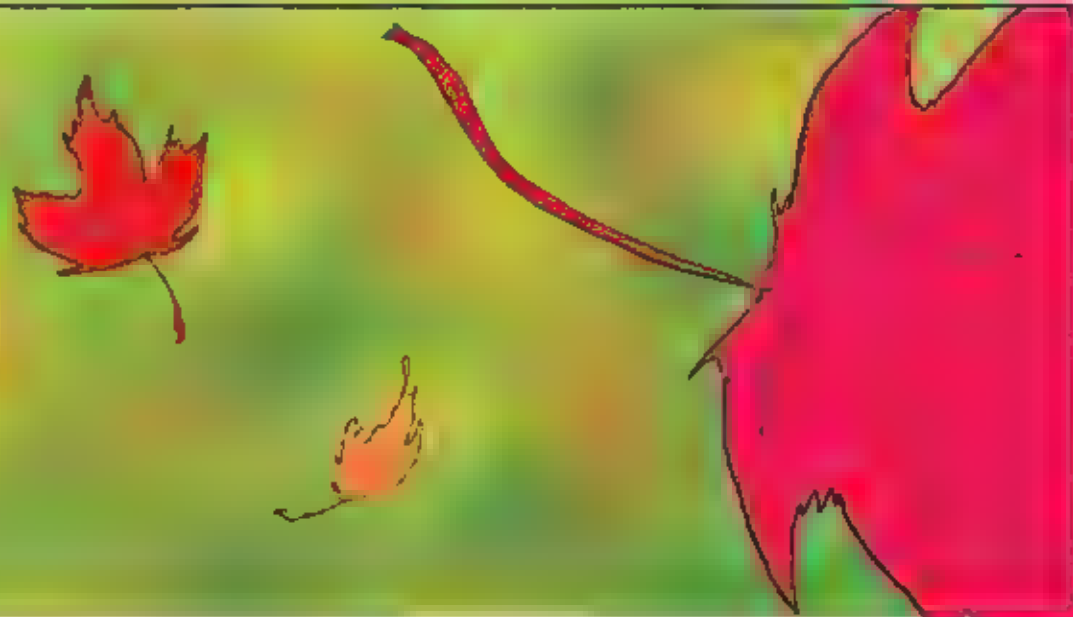
Brooklyn

WHO WOULD CARE?
FOR COUNTLESS YEARS,
I'VE BEEN NOTHING MORE
THAN A FRONT...THE FALL
GUY FOR EVERY WAR
THAT TAKES PLACE, AND
THE SPONSOR FOR EVERY
WORSE ONE BEING
PLANNED.

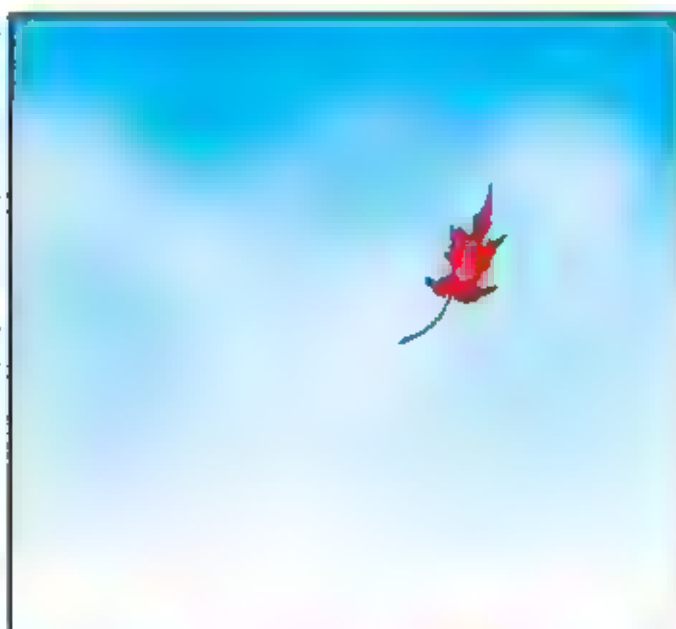


I'M NOT TURNING MY JOB
OVER TO THE SUITS...THEY
CO-OPTED ME AGES AGO.
CAN YOU BLAME ME
FOR PREFERRING
A SARONG?

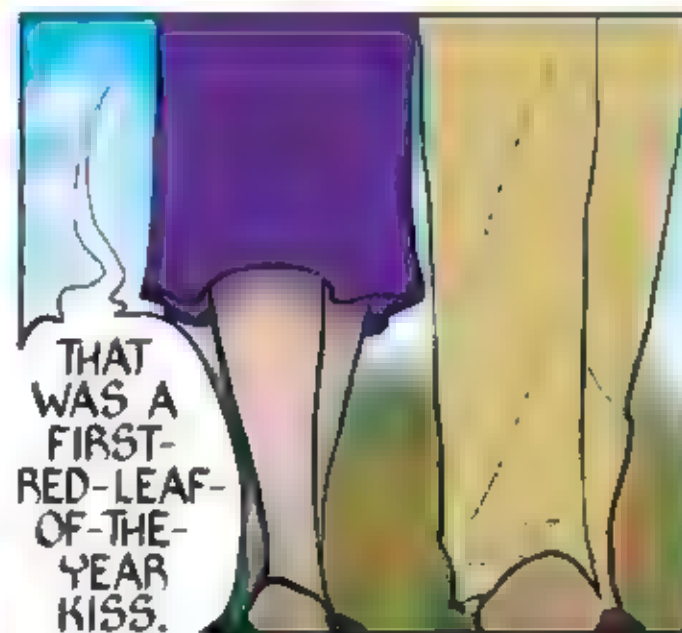




<http://chickweedcafe.blogspot.com>



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9-10



I CAN UNDERSTAND ANYBODY
ELSE HAVING A CRISIS OF
FAITH, BUT IT ISN'T THE
SORT OF
THING WE
EXPECT
FROM
THE AL-
MIGHTY.

THAT'S THE THING...
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN WHAT
PEOPLE EXPECTED OF ME.
I'M ALL BOUND UP IN SUPEREGO.
FIRST I WAS JEALOUS AND
WRATHFUL, THEN I TURNED
INTO A LOVING SHEPHERD.
...NEITHER WAS
WHAT I WANTED.

AND YOUR
ASPIRATION
WAS...?

THE WIZARD OF THE HOME RUN,
THE SULTAN OF SWAT...STANDING AT
HOME PLATE, TAPPING THE DIRT
OFF MY
CLEATS,
ADJUSTING
MY CAP,
SPITTING...

YOU HAVE YOUR DAY-
DREAMS...WE ALL HAVE OUR
DAYDREAMS. BUT OUR
RESPONSIBILITIES COME
FIRST.

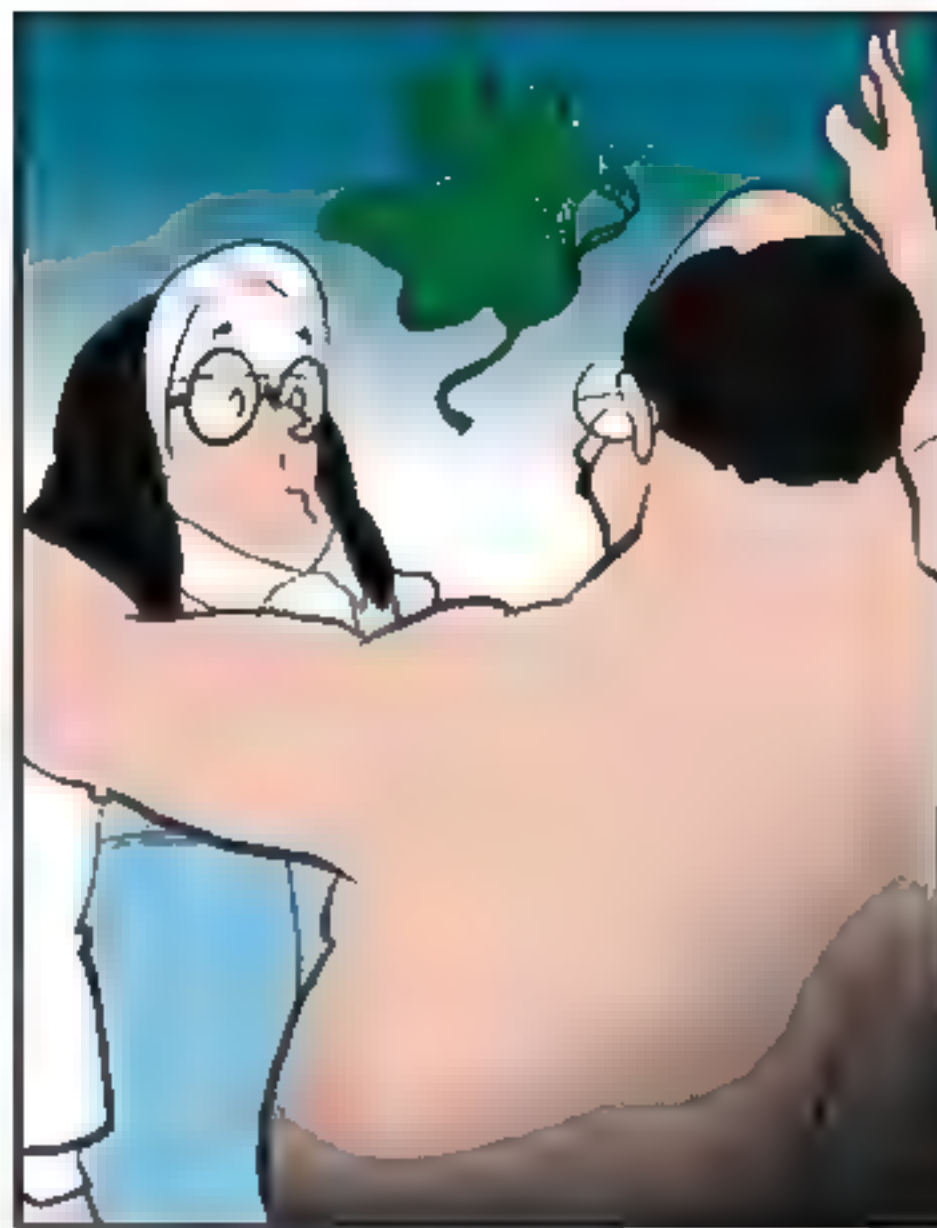
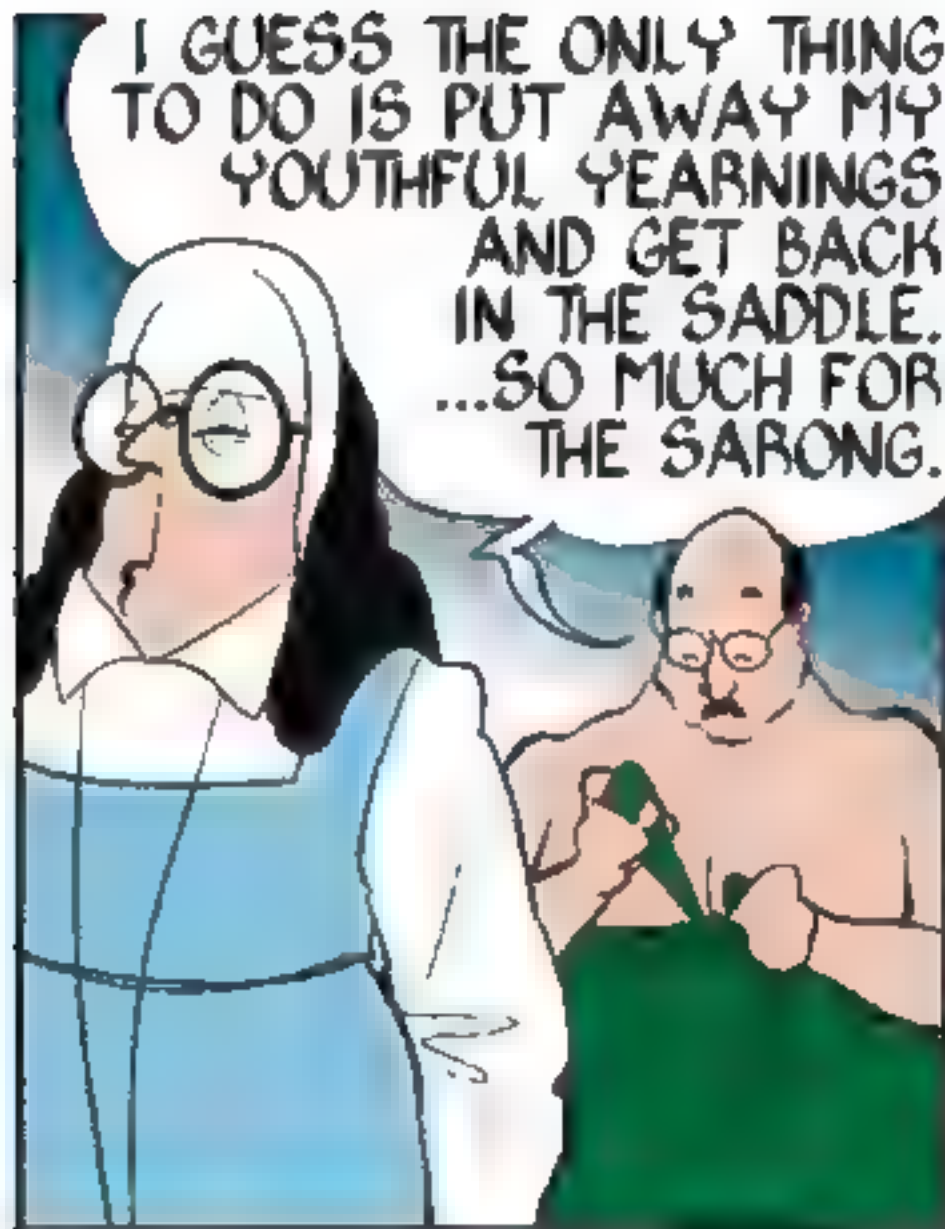


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HOWEVER, THIS BEING AN
OUT-OF-BODY FANTASY...
...I DON'T SUPPOSE, JUST
FOR A MOMENT, YOU COULD
INDULGE A
SECRET
FANCY
OF MY OWN...

NOBODY
WILL EVER
KNOW.





AND NOW, ATTIIRED ONCE AGAIN
IN THE SIMPLE VESTMENTS OF
MY PROFESSION,
WE NEED ONLY
BOARD OUR
PEA-GREEN
CANOE
AND...

THERE'S ONE SMALL
FLY IN THE OINTMENT...
...OUR HELMSMAN HAS
COMMANDEERED THE VESSEL.



...AND HE APPEARS
TO HAVE INDULGED IN
A BIT TOO MUCH
BONG FRUIT.

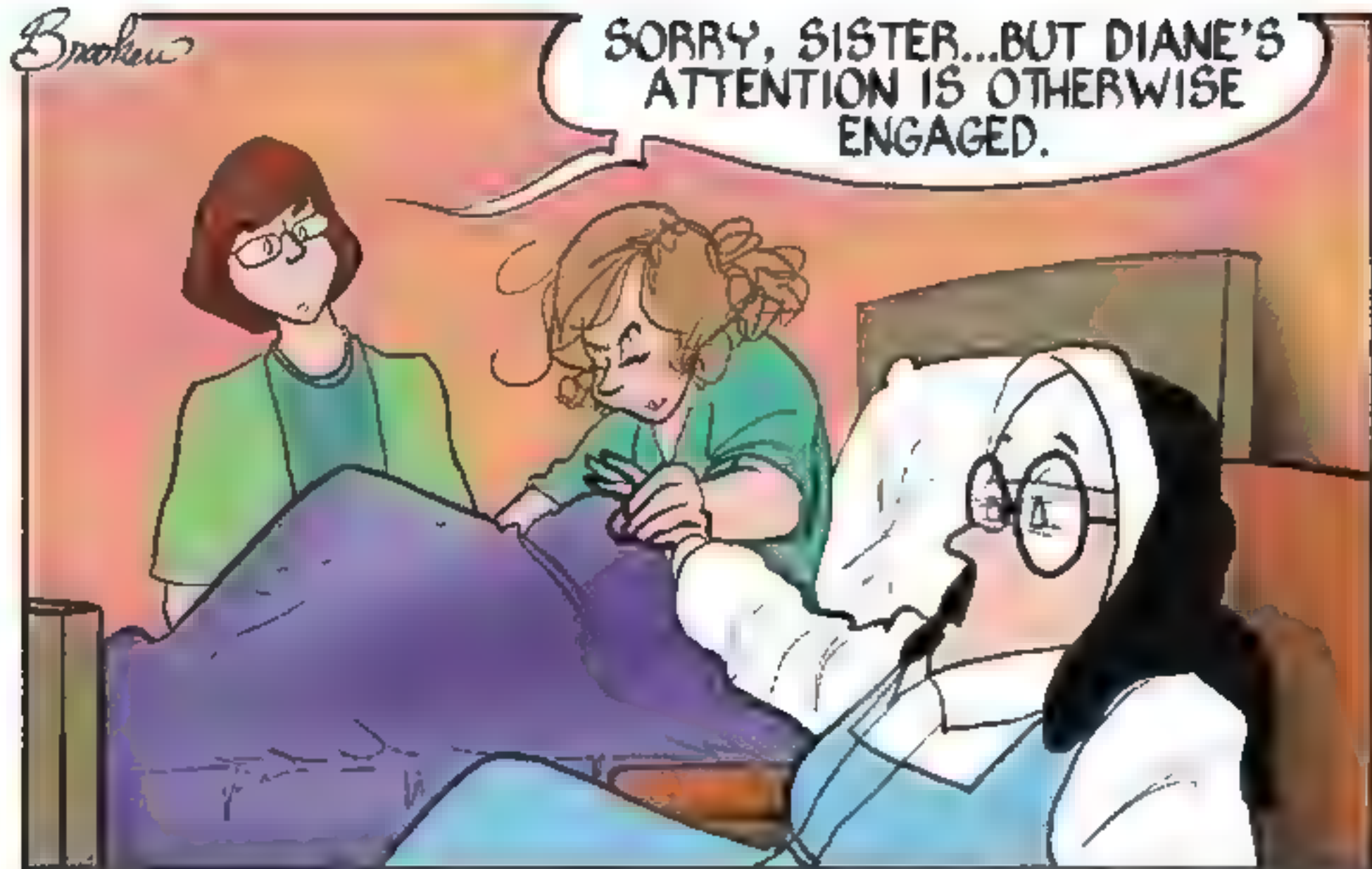


THERE STILL IS A WAY
OUT OF THIS DREAM,
BUT IT WILL
OBLIGE YOU
TO BOOGIE.
I'M SURE
YOU'RE
DIVINE.

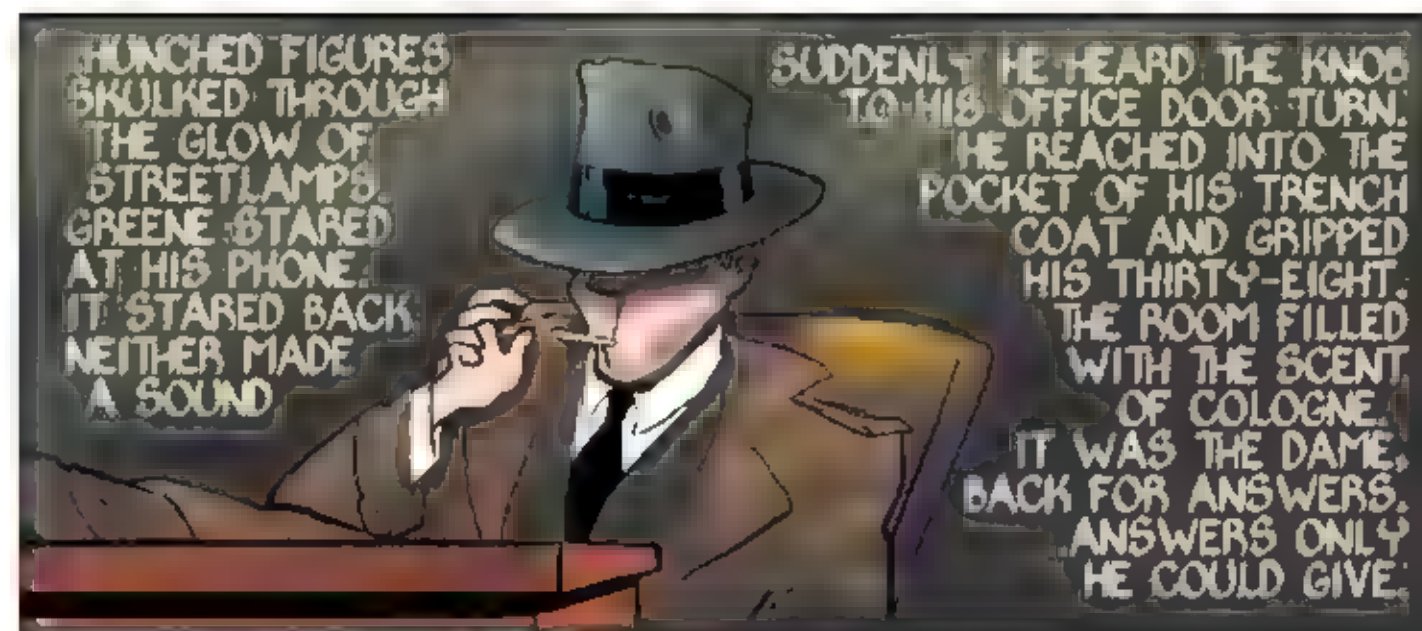
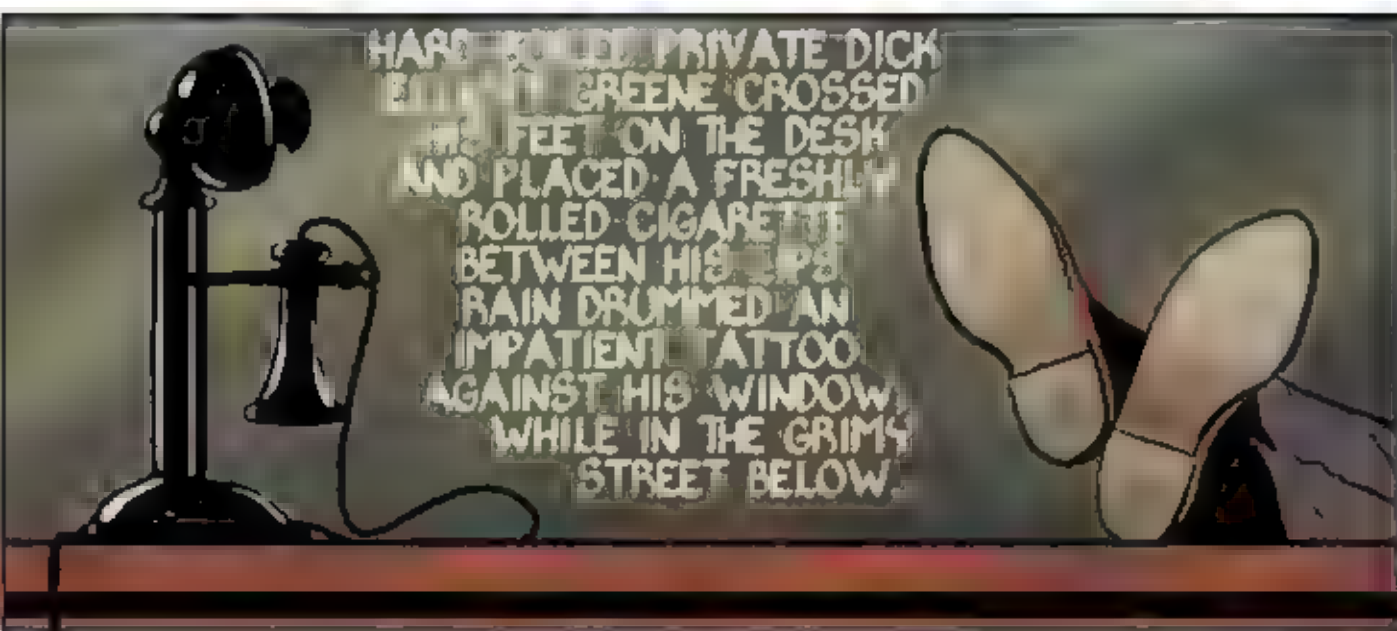
JUST CUT
THE CHITCHAT
AND GET
ME OFF THIS
TWO-BIT
ATOLL.

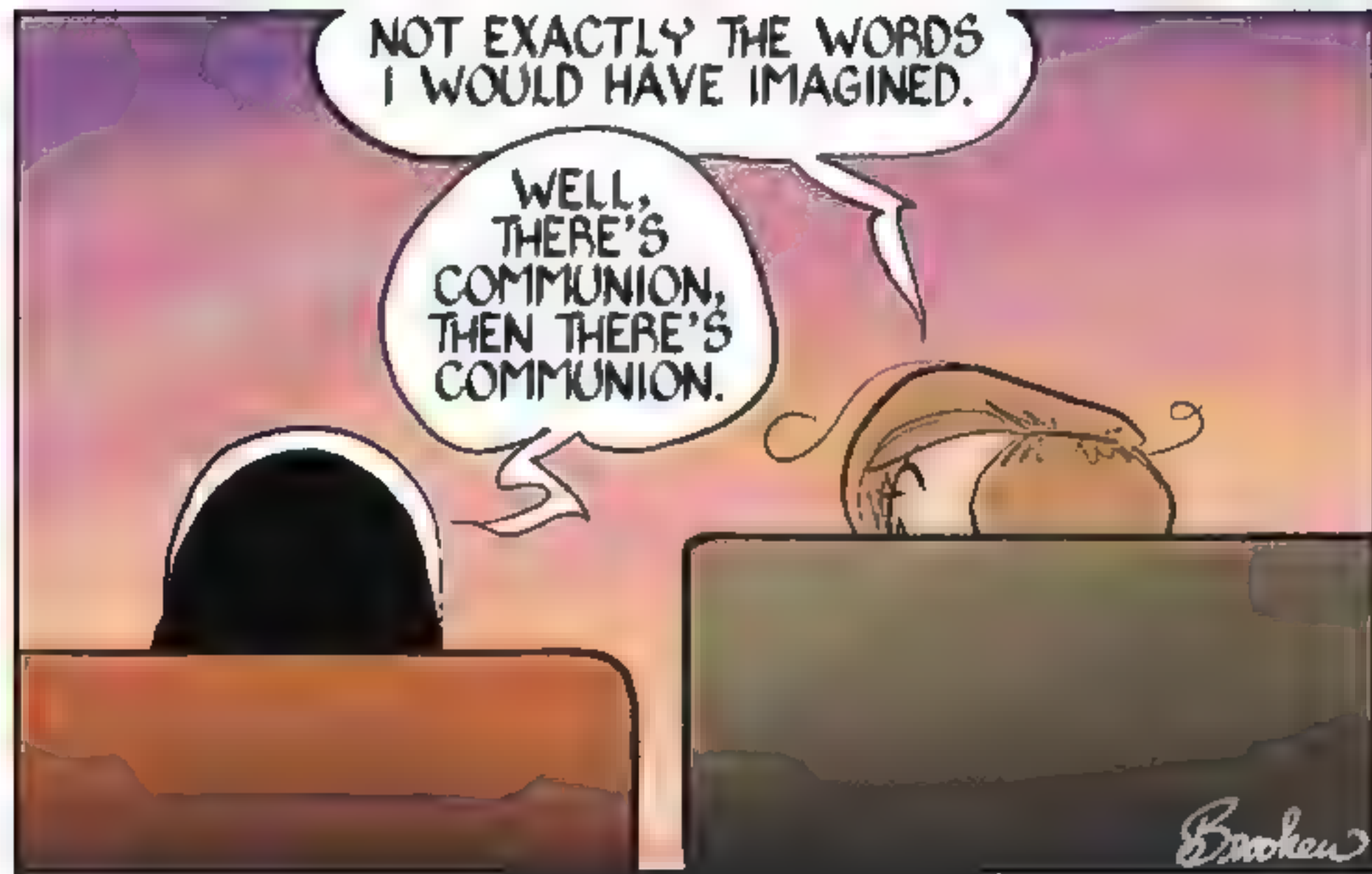
Brackley





9 CHICKWEED LANE



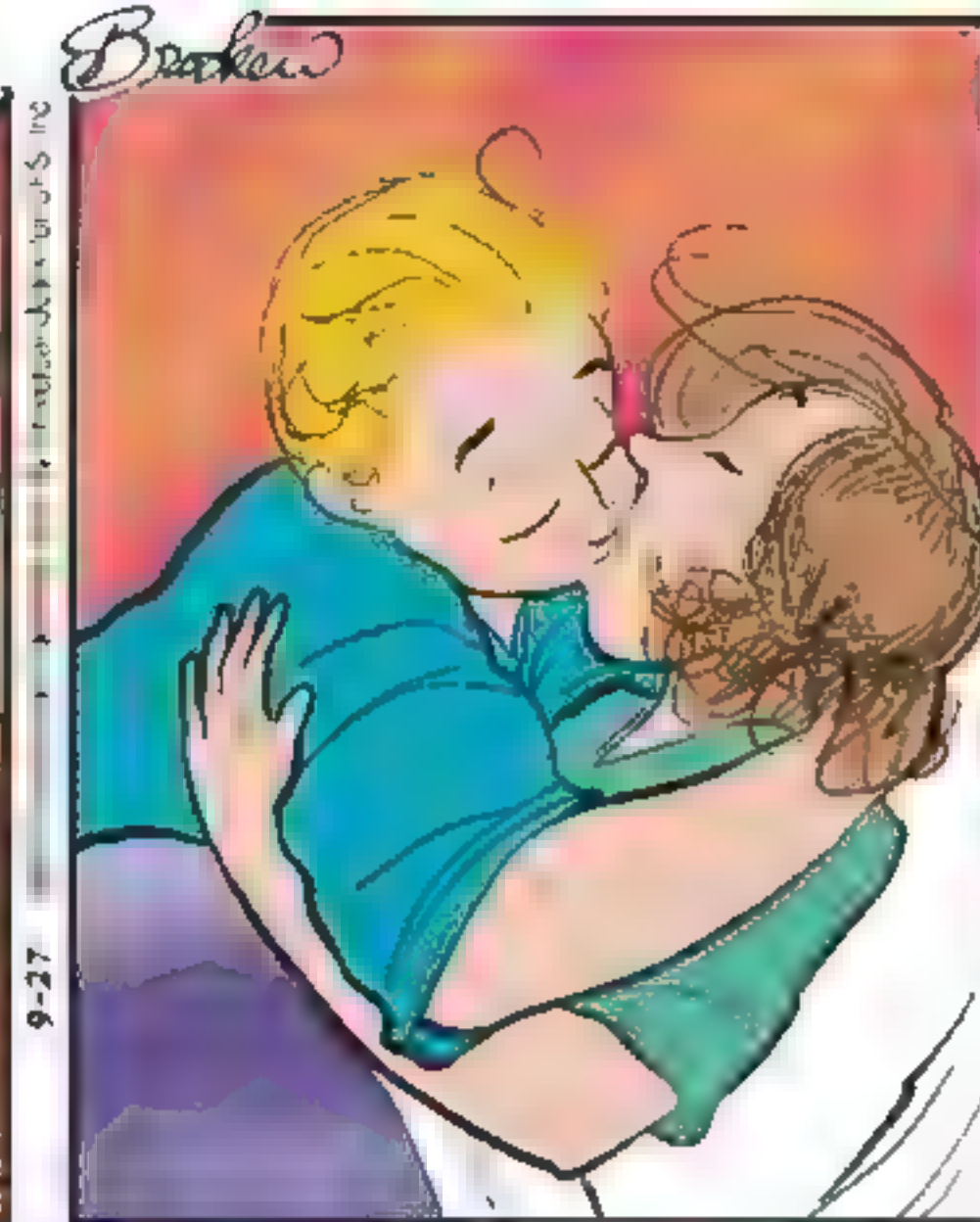


HELLO! HERE I AM, FINALLY.
THEY MADE ME
PUT ON
THESE
SCRUB
THINGS.
DID I
MISS
ANY-
THING?



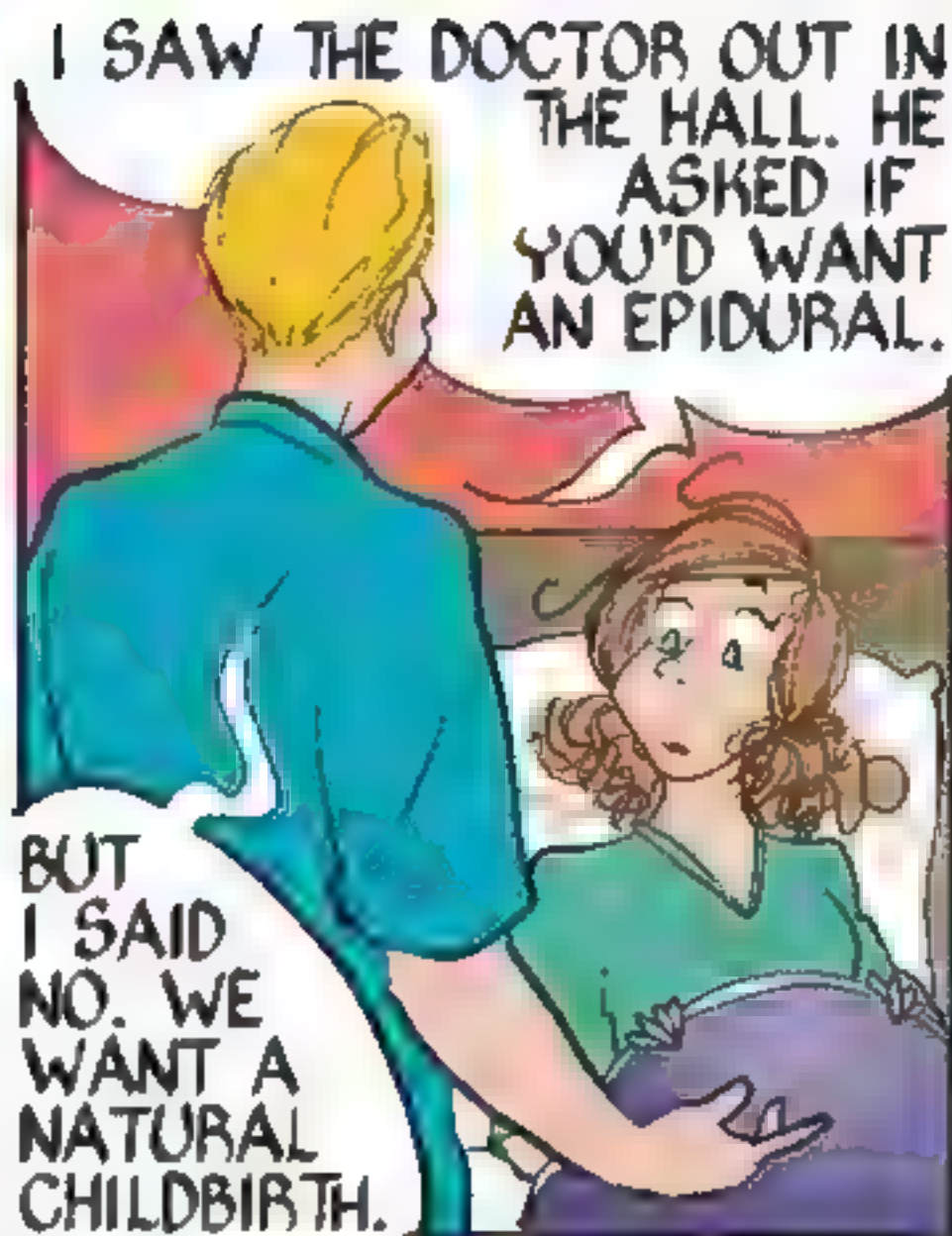
SWEETIE!

Broken

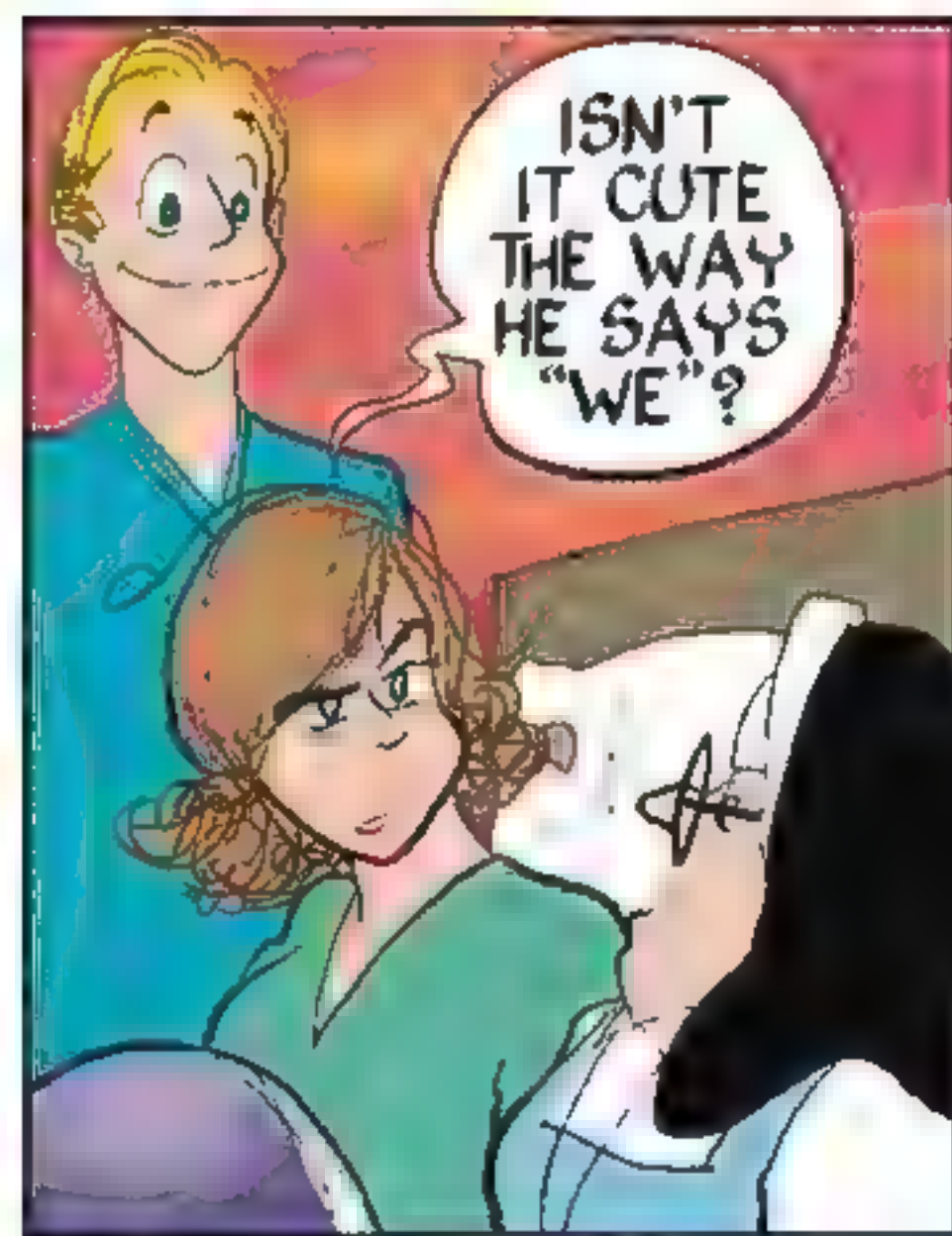


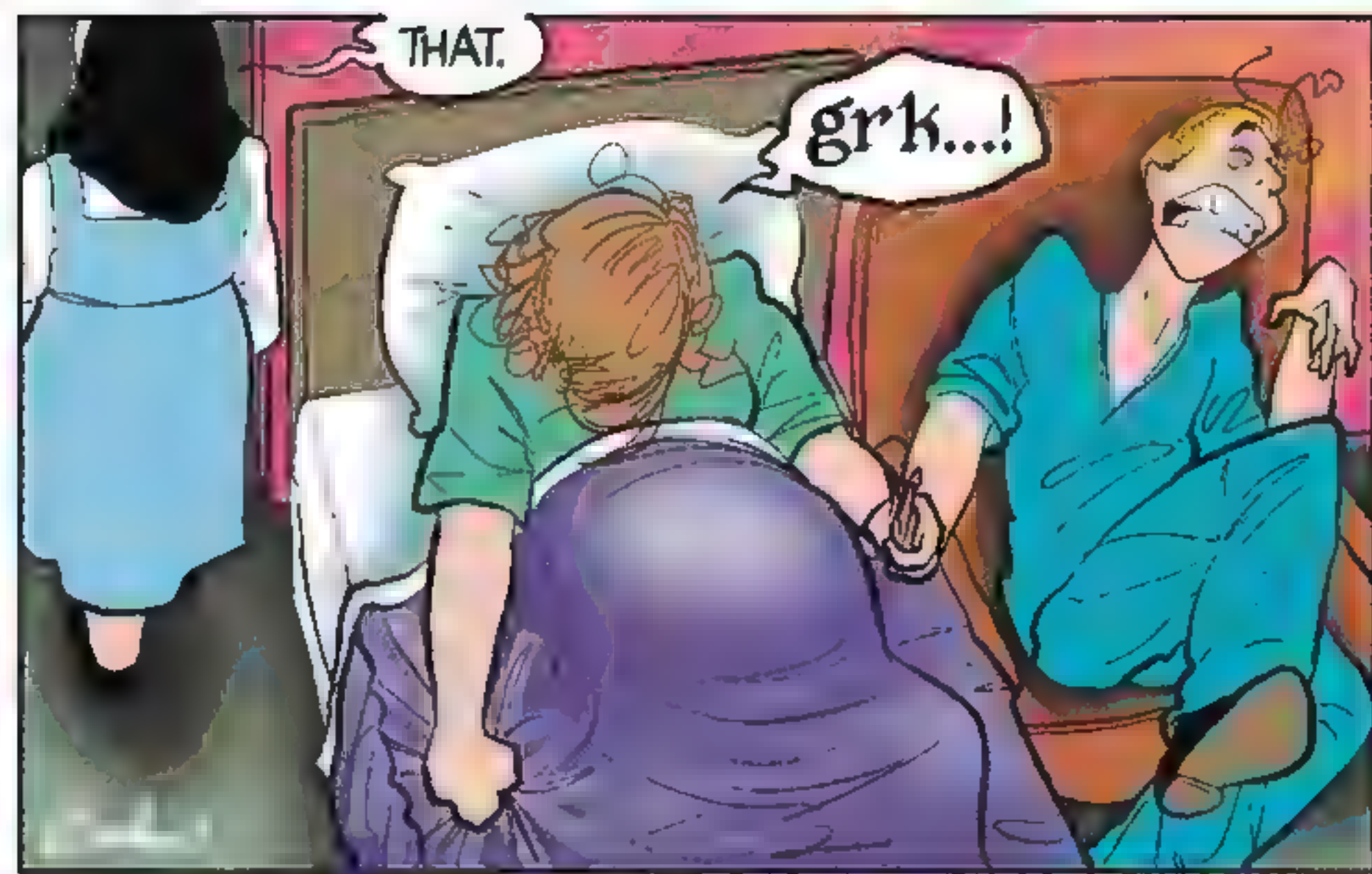
I SAW THE DOCTOR OUT IN
THE HALL. HE
ASKED IF
YOU'D WANT
AN EPIDURAL.

BUT
I SAID
NO. WE
WANT A
NATURAL
CHILDBIRTH.

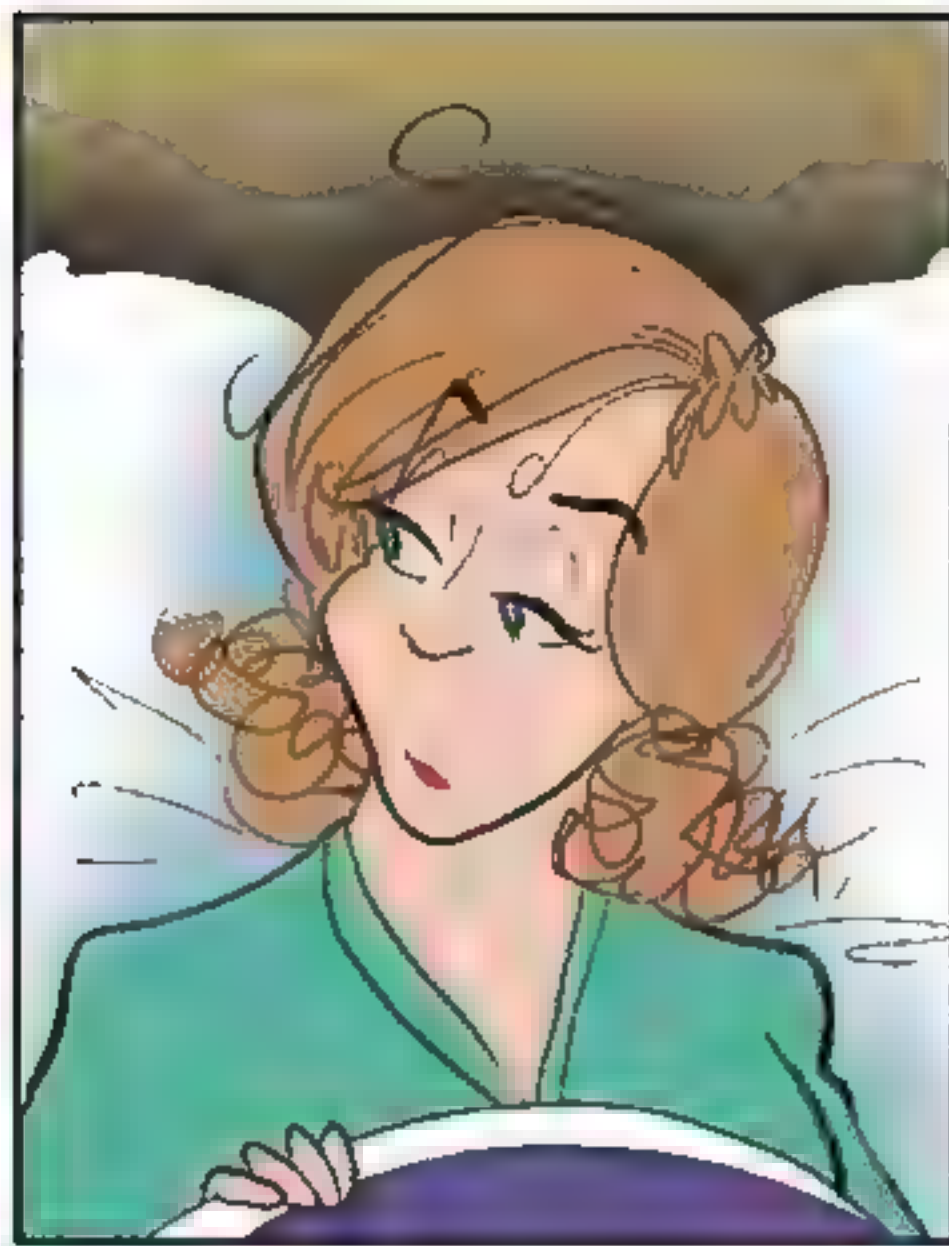


ISN'T
IT CUTE
THE WAY
HE SAYS
"WE"?





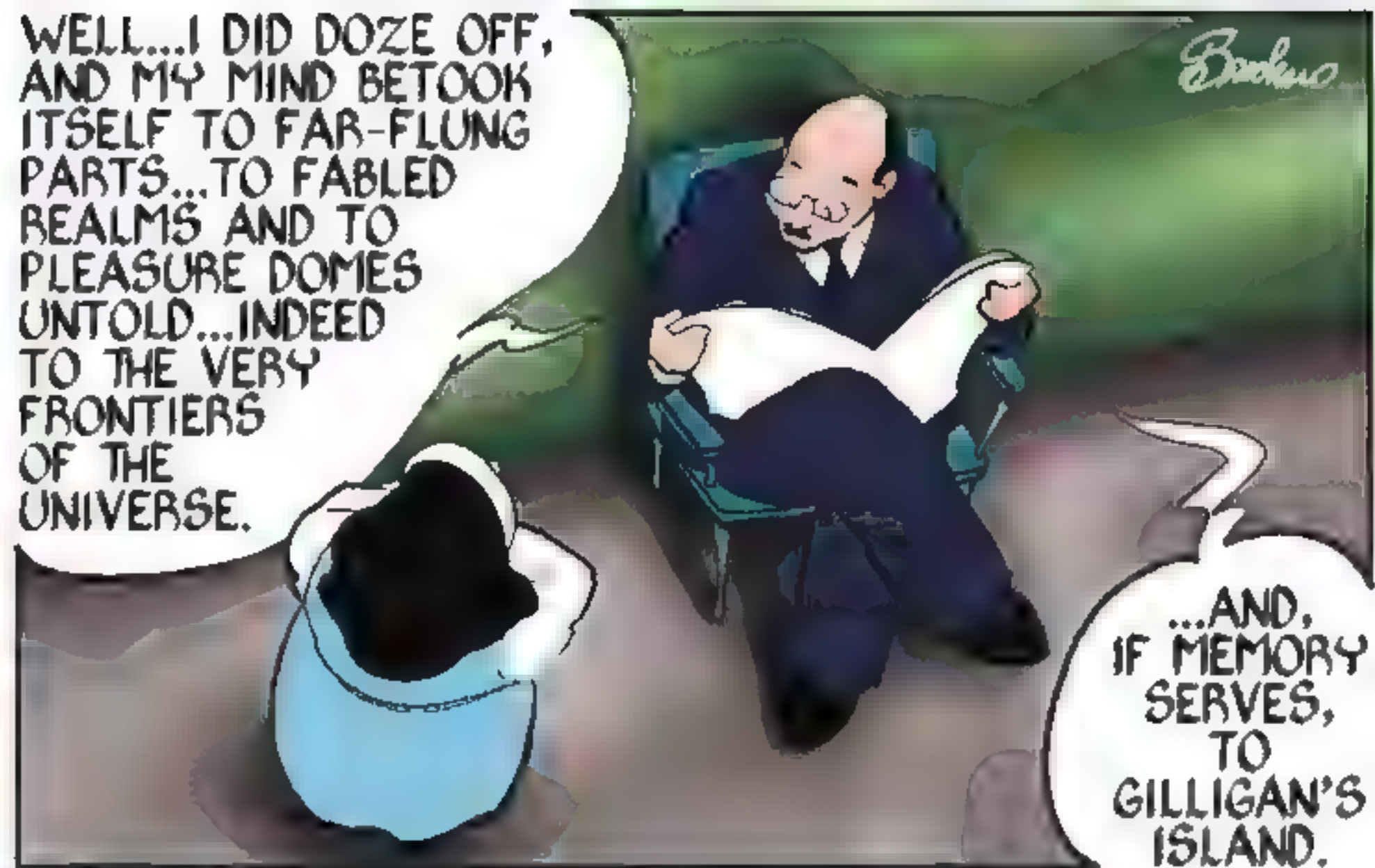
A cartoon illustration of a woman with glasses and a man with blonde hair. The woman is holding a large white speech bubble that says "HERE, WE PRACTICE LAMAZE."



9-29 6:52 PM - 9/29/2017 10:15 AM

IT'S
SOMETHING
TO DO
BETWEEN
CONTRACT-
TIONS.

Brookew

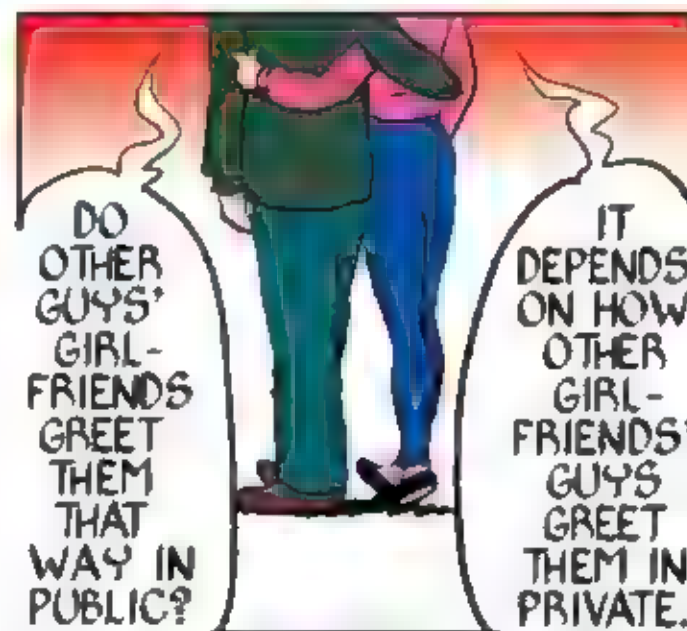
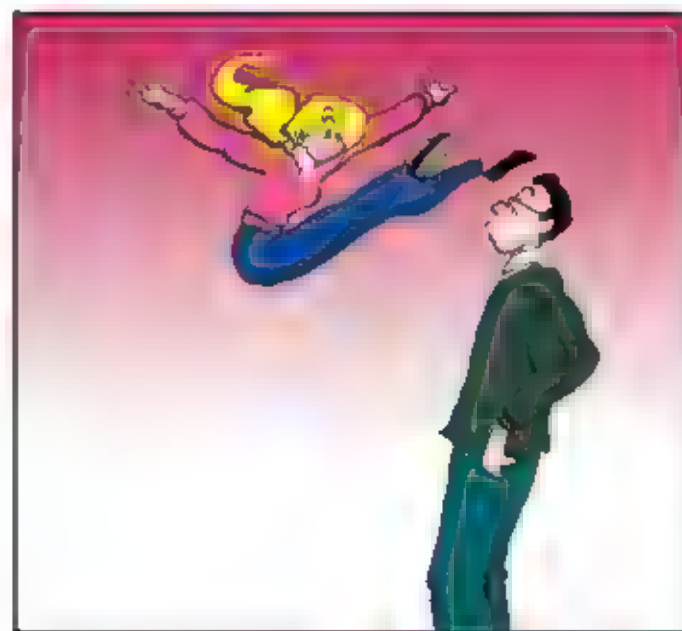


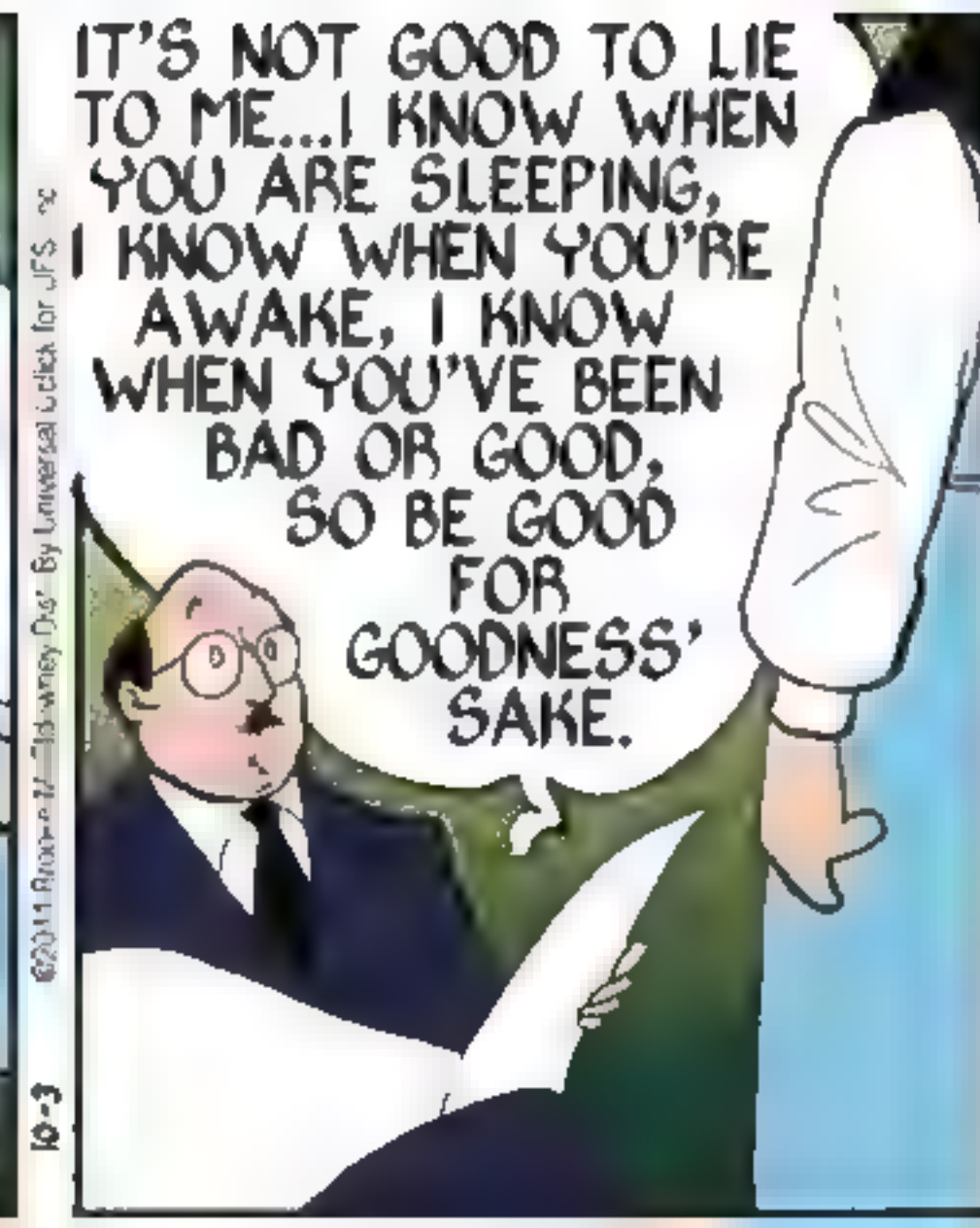




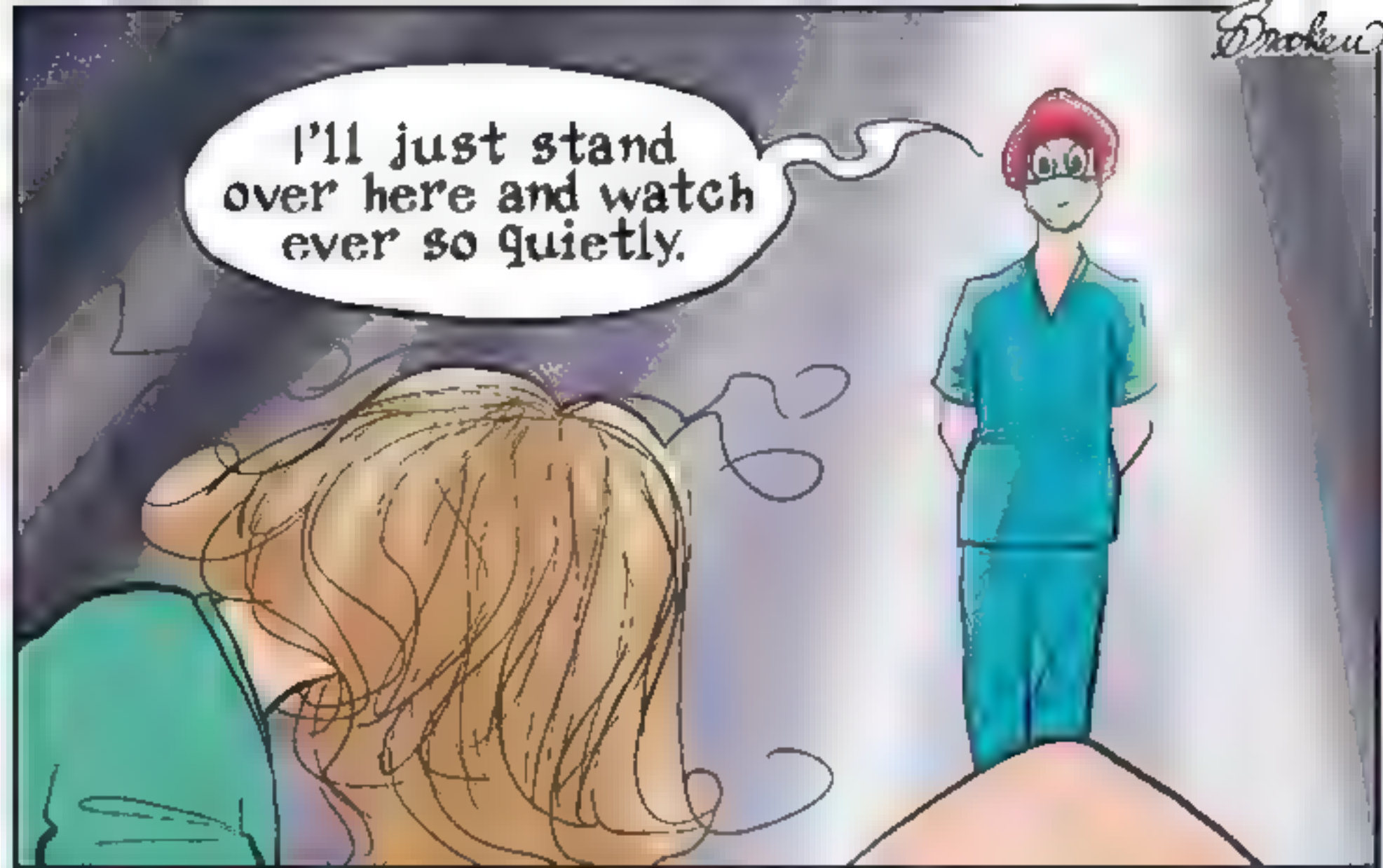
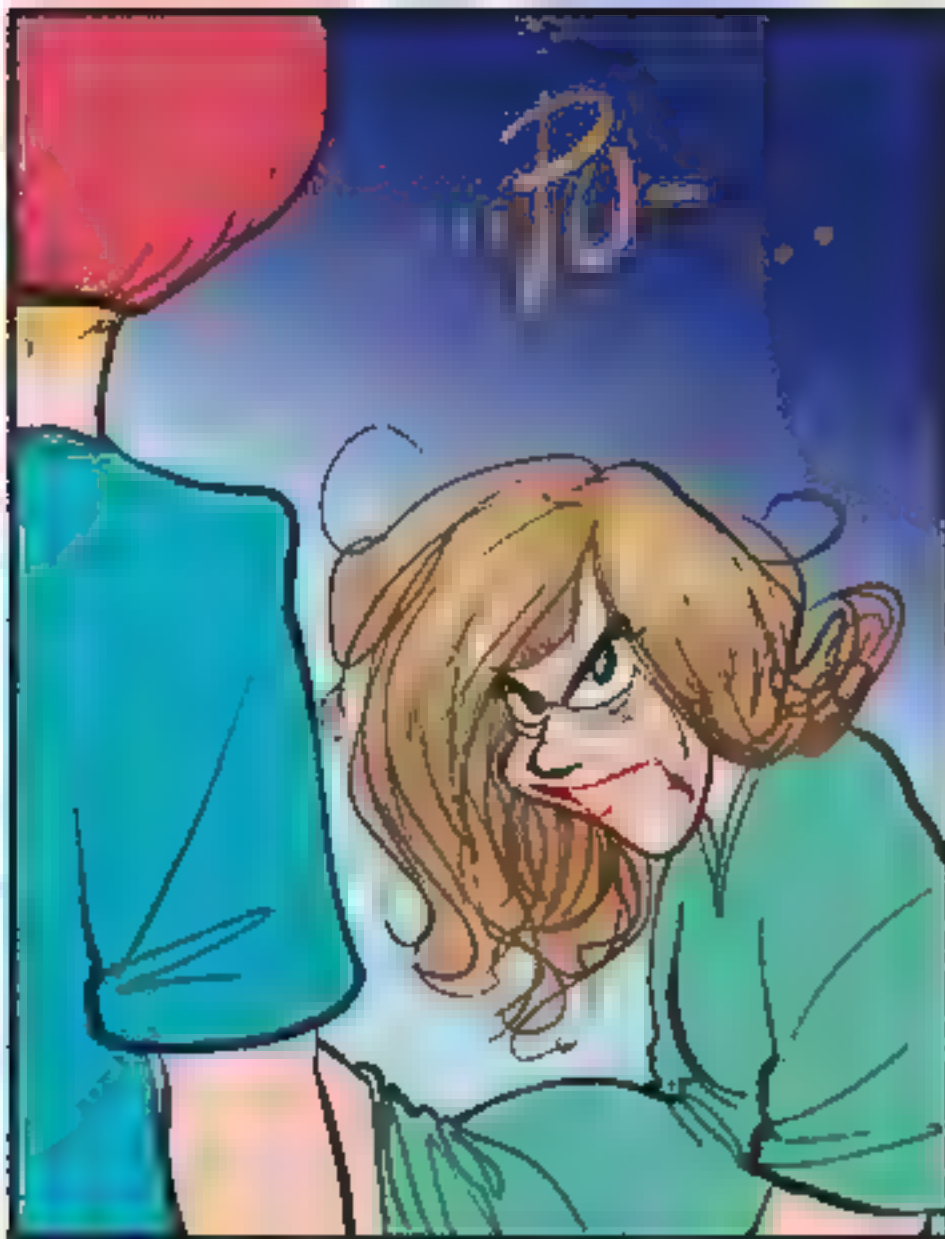
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Brooke



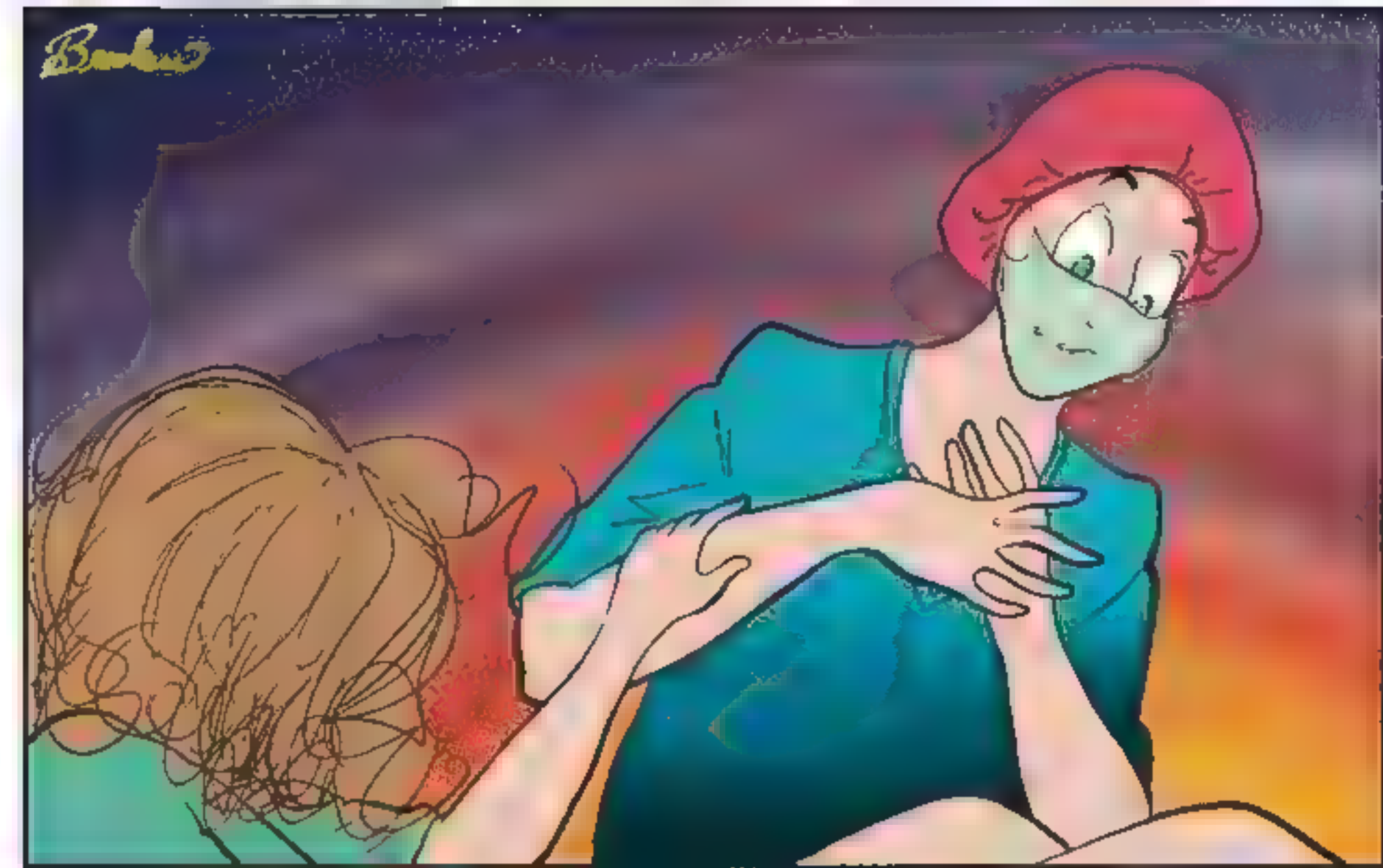
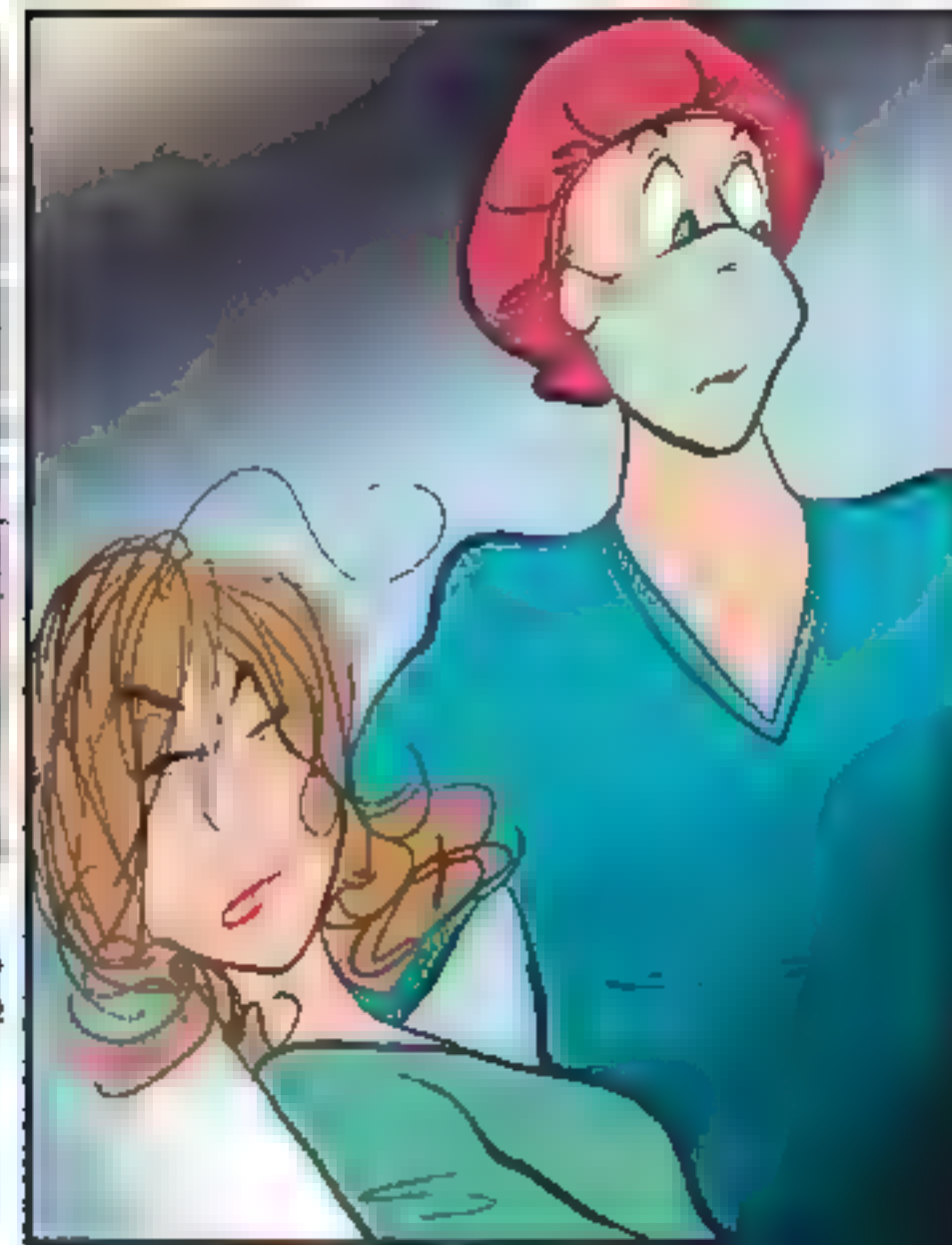


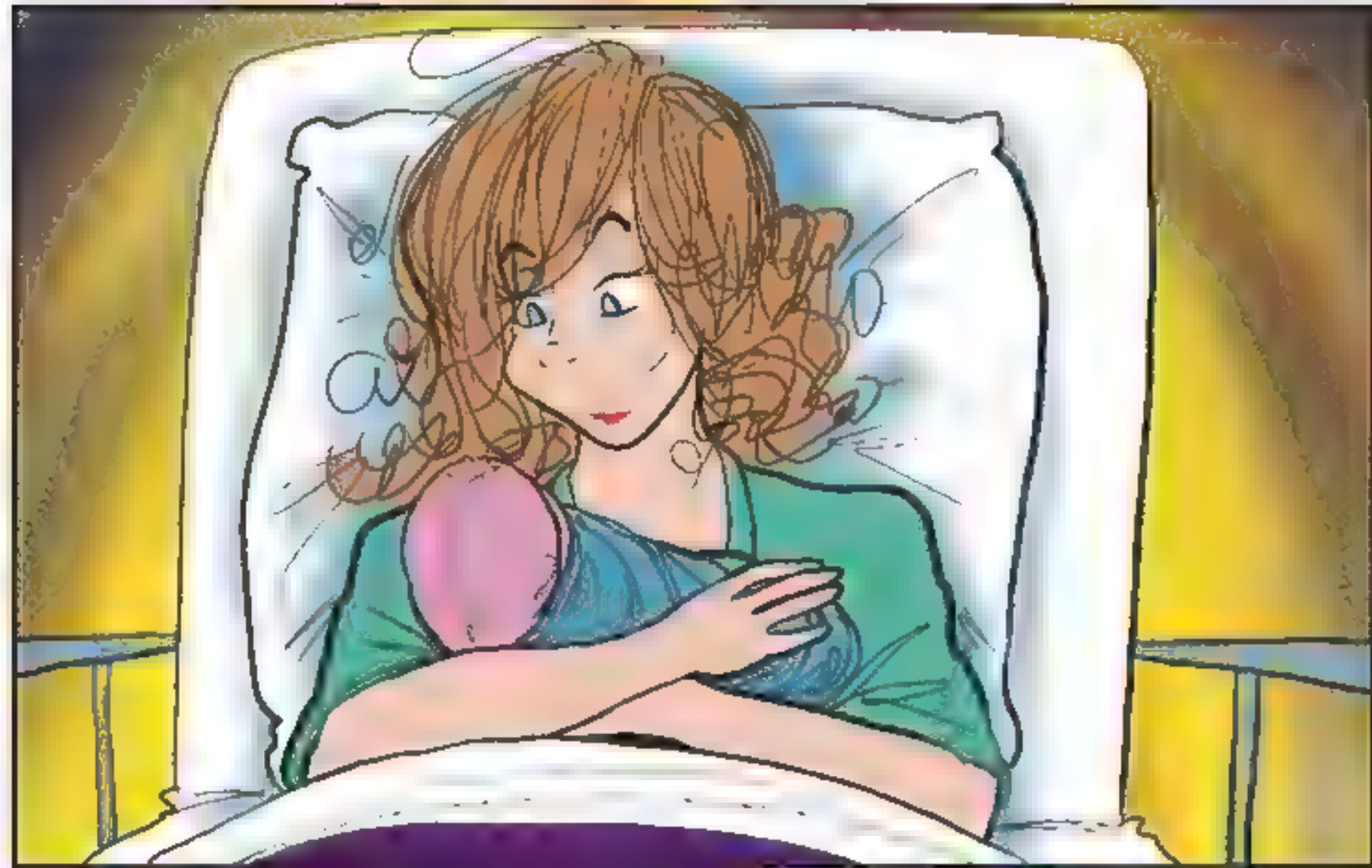


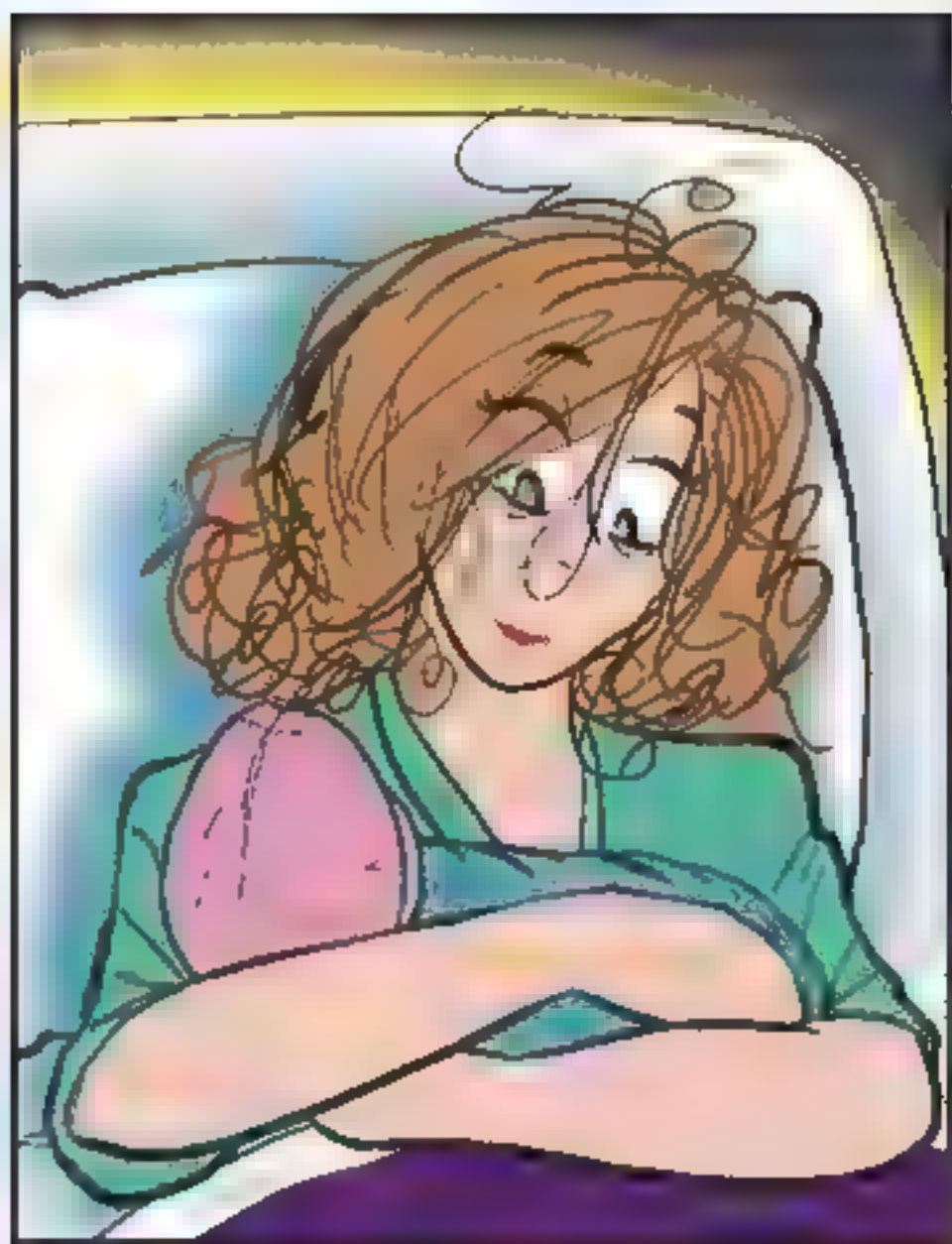




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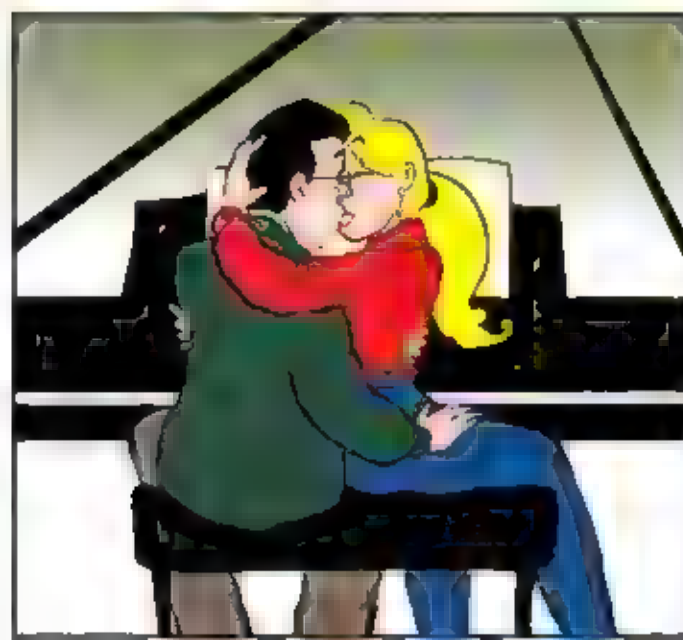
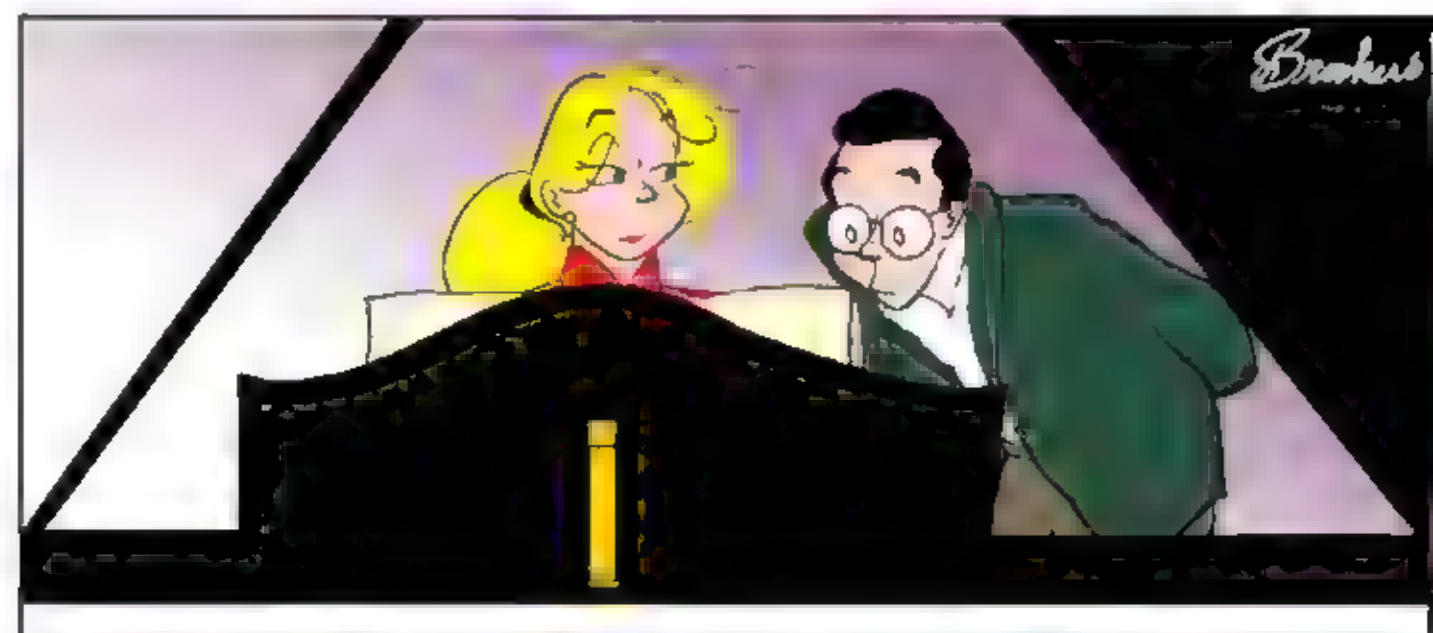
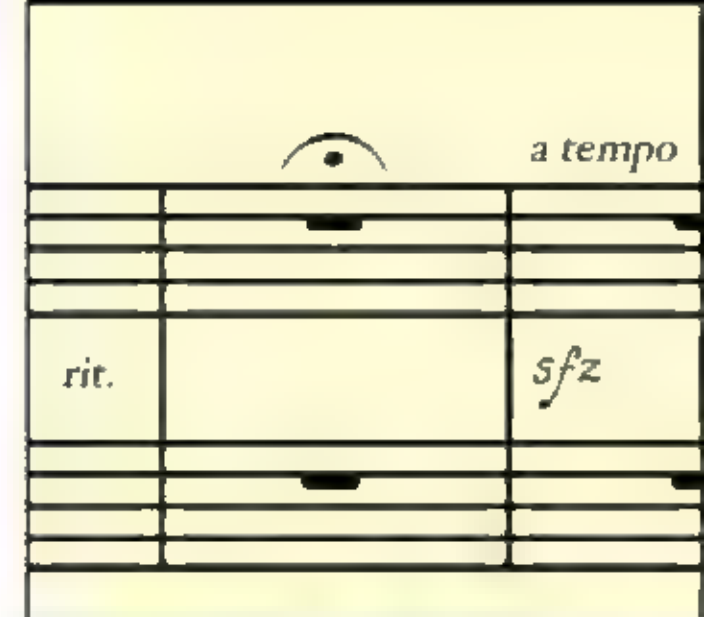








With Feeling

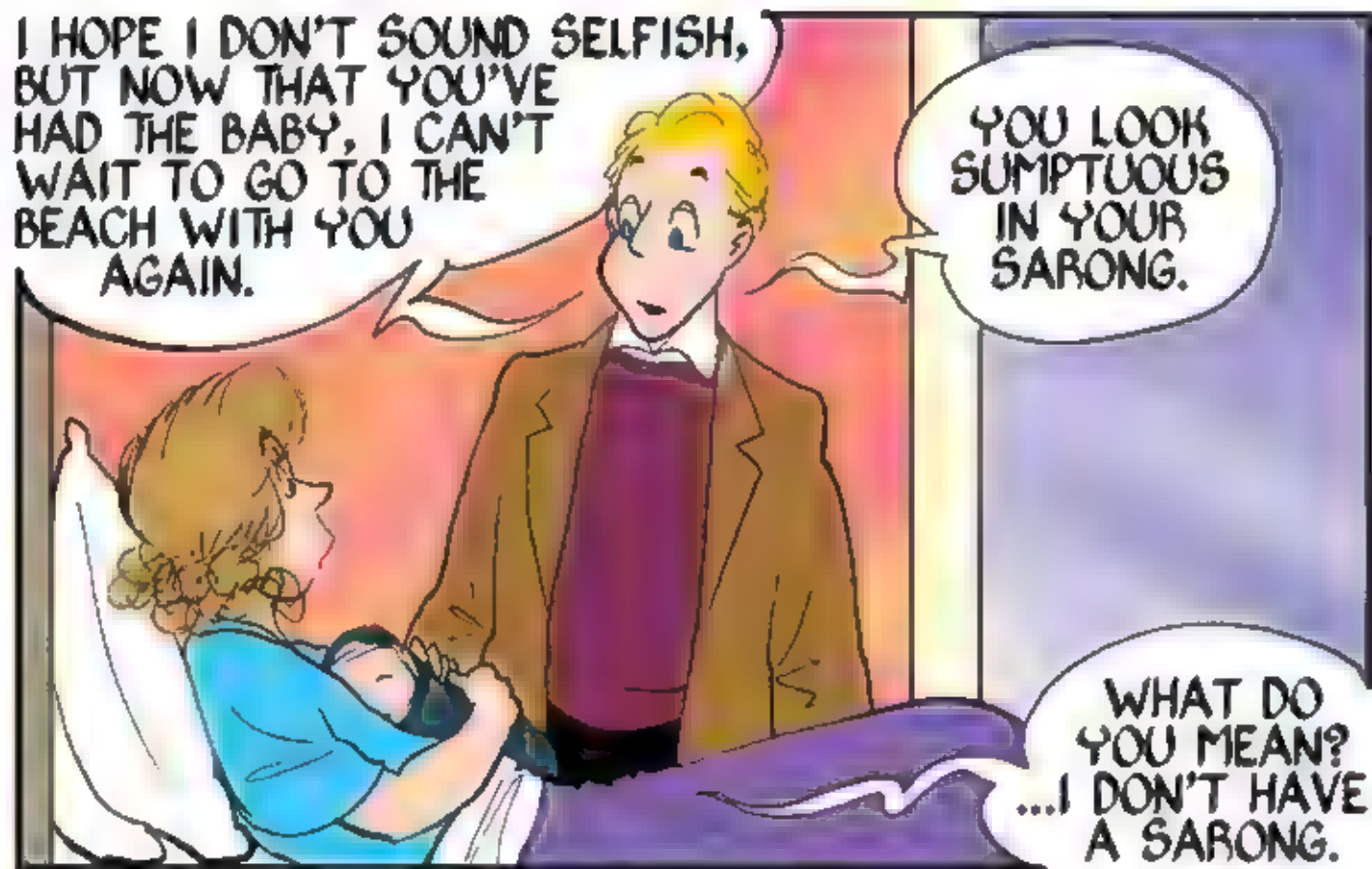


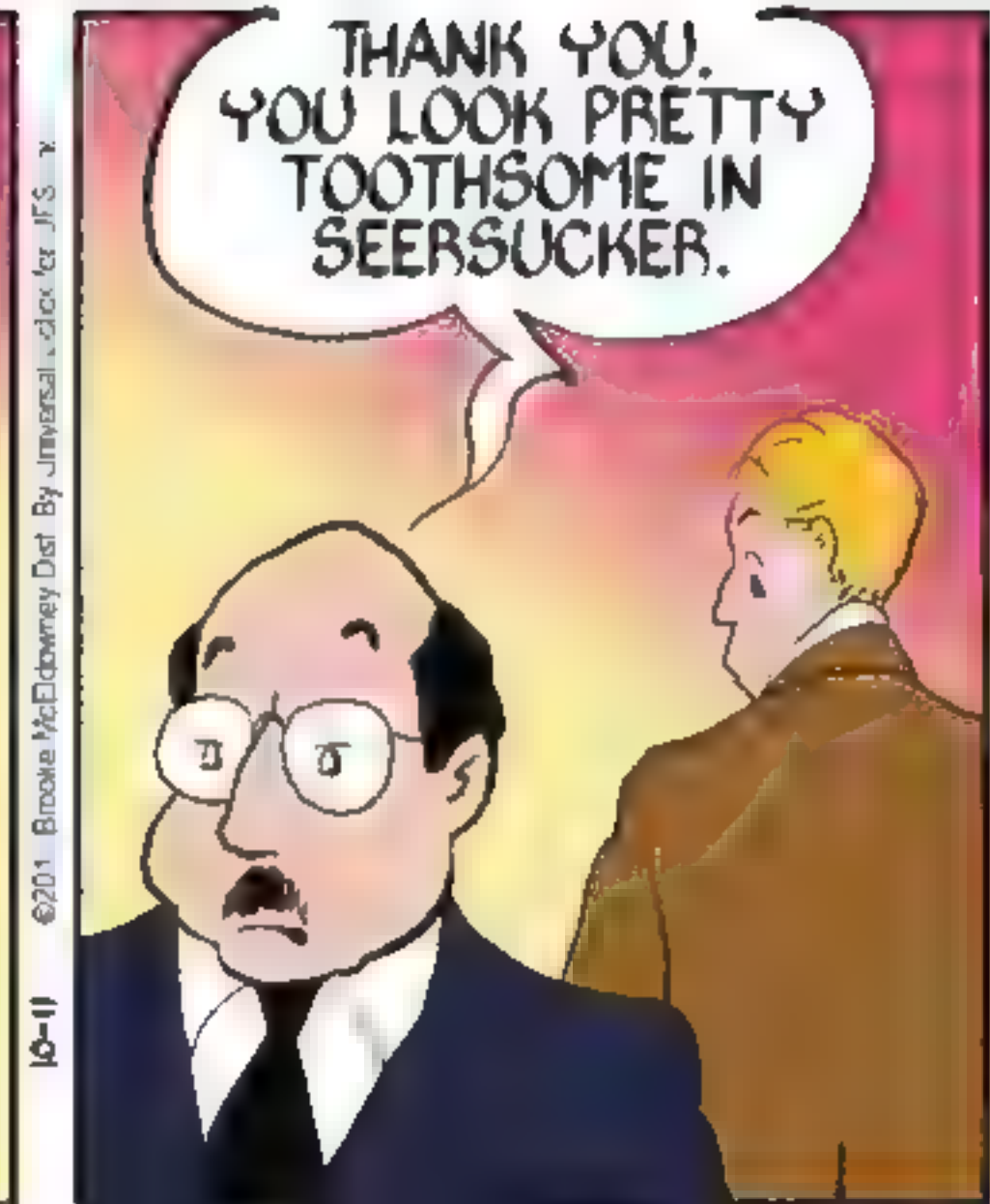
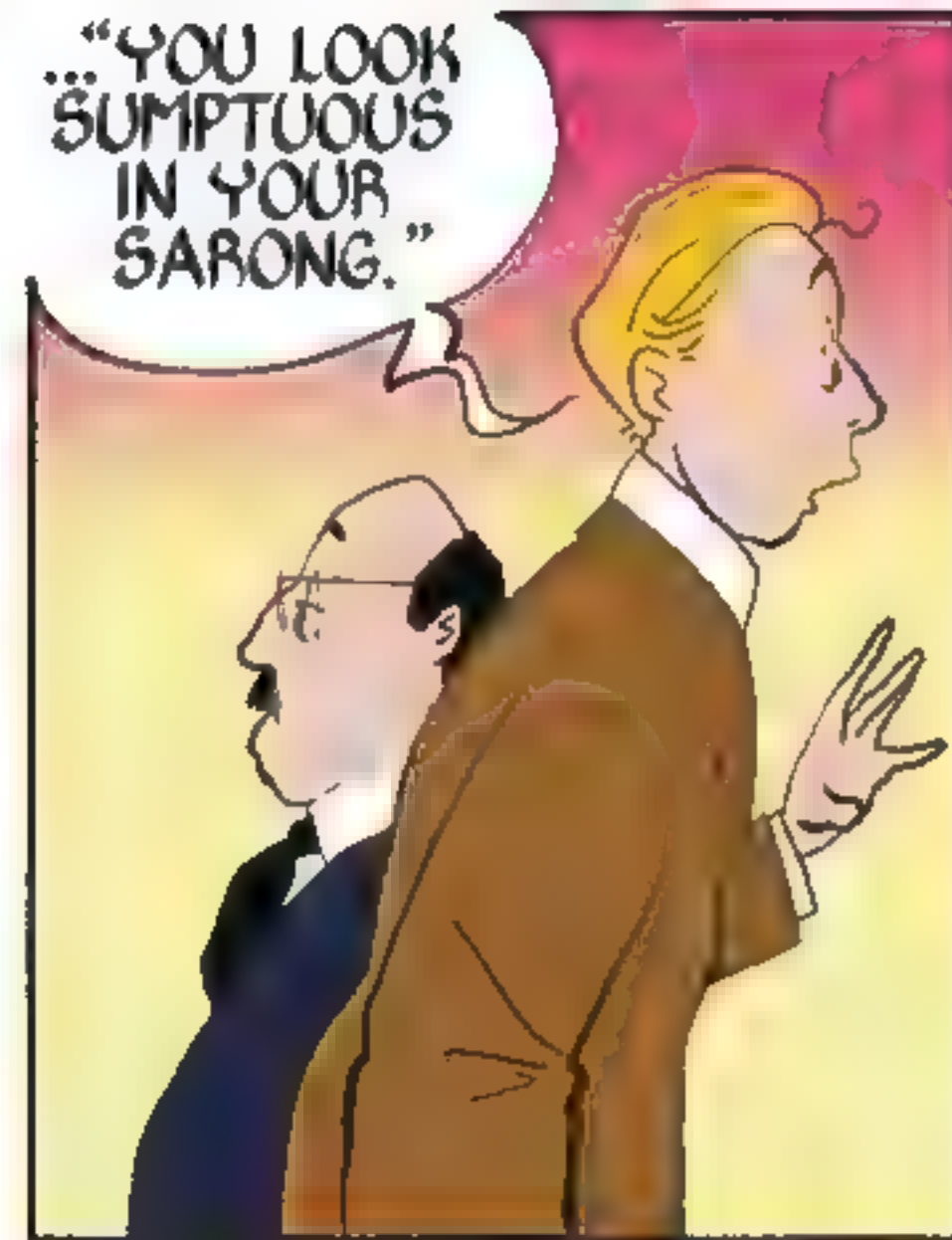
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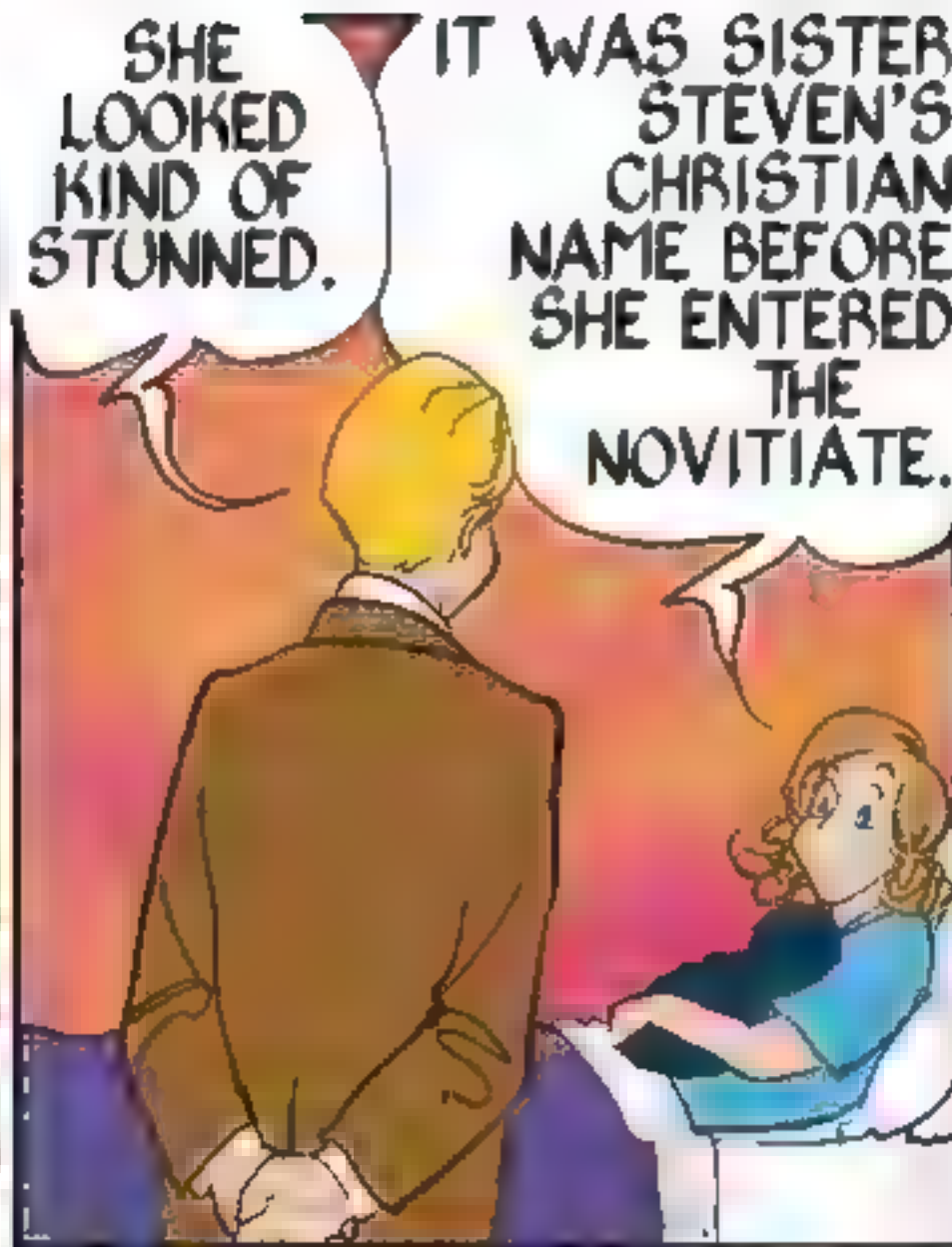
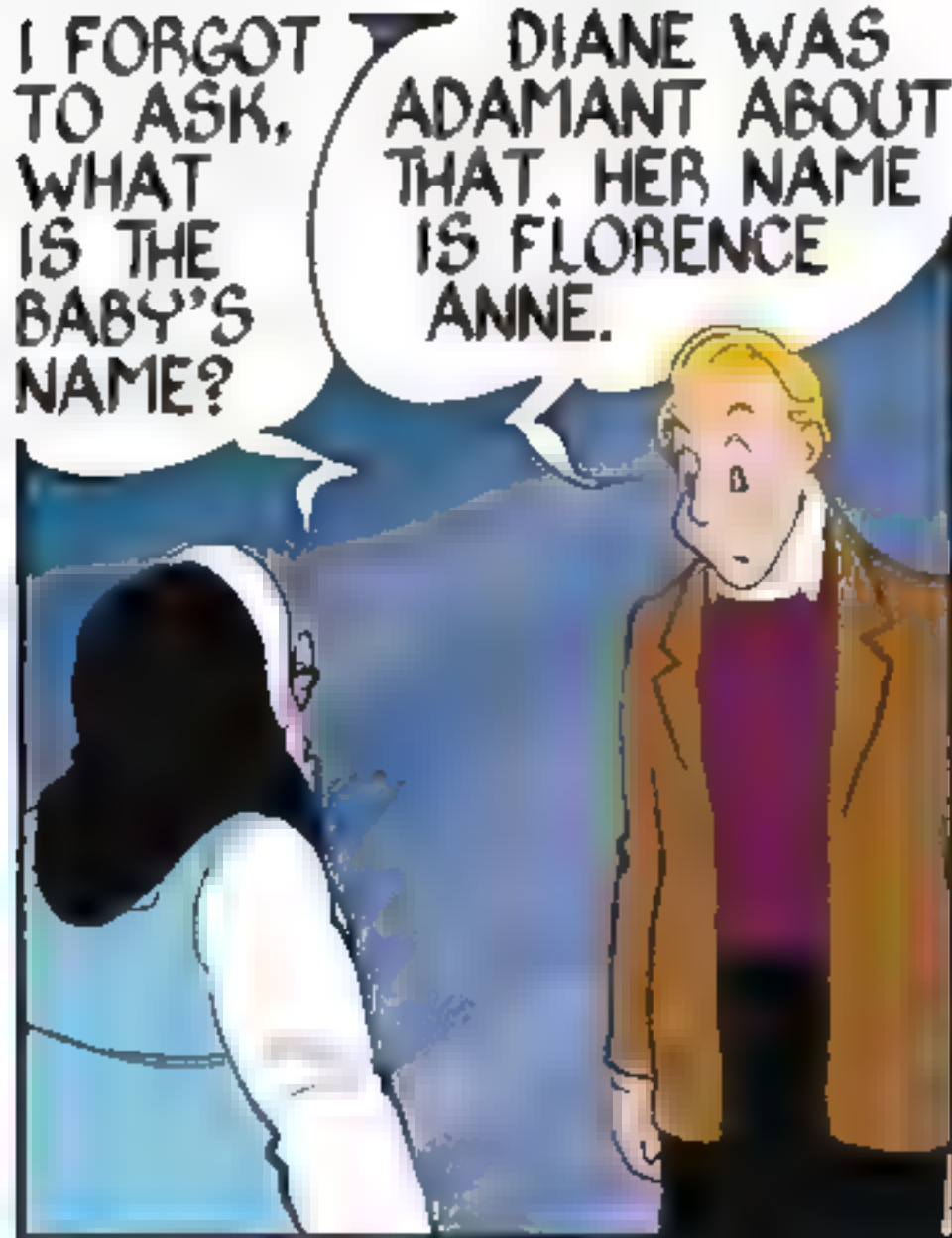


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WELL, HERE WE ARE, BACK AT OUR RESPECTIVE, OLD GRIND-STONES. BUSINESS AS USUAL. I HAVE TO ADMIT, I RATHER ENJOYED THE ALFRESCO FREEDOM OF THE SARONG.

HOWEVER, SISTER STEVEN SAID THAT LORDING ABOUT WITH A CLOTH DANGLING LOOSELY FROM ONE'S LOINS IS NOT ACCEPTABLE.

AS DID I. ...AS DID I.

FOOD FOR SARTORIAL THOUGHT.

HOWEVER,
SISTER STEVEN
SAID THAT
LORDING
ABOUT WITH
A CLOTH
DANGLING
LOOSELY
FROM ONE'S
LOINS IS NOT
ACCEPTABLE.

FOOD FOR
SARTORIAL
THOUGHT.

THIS IS MUCH BETTER...
THEY'RE COLORFUL,
AND THEY PROVIDE
THE SUPPORT
I SO BADLY
NEED.

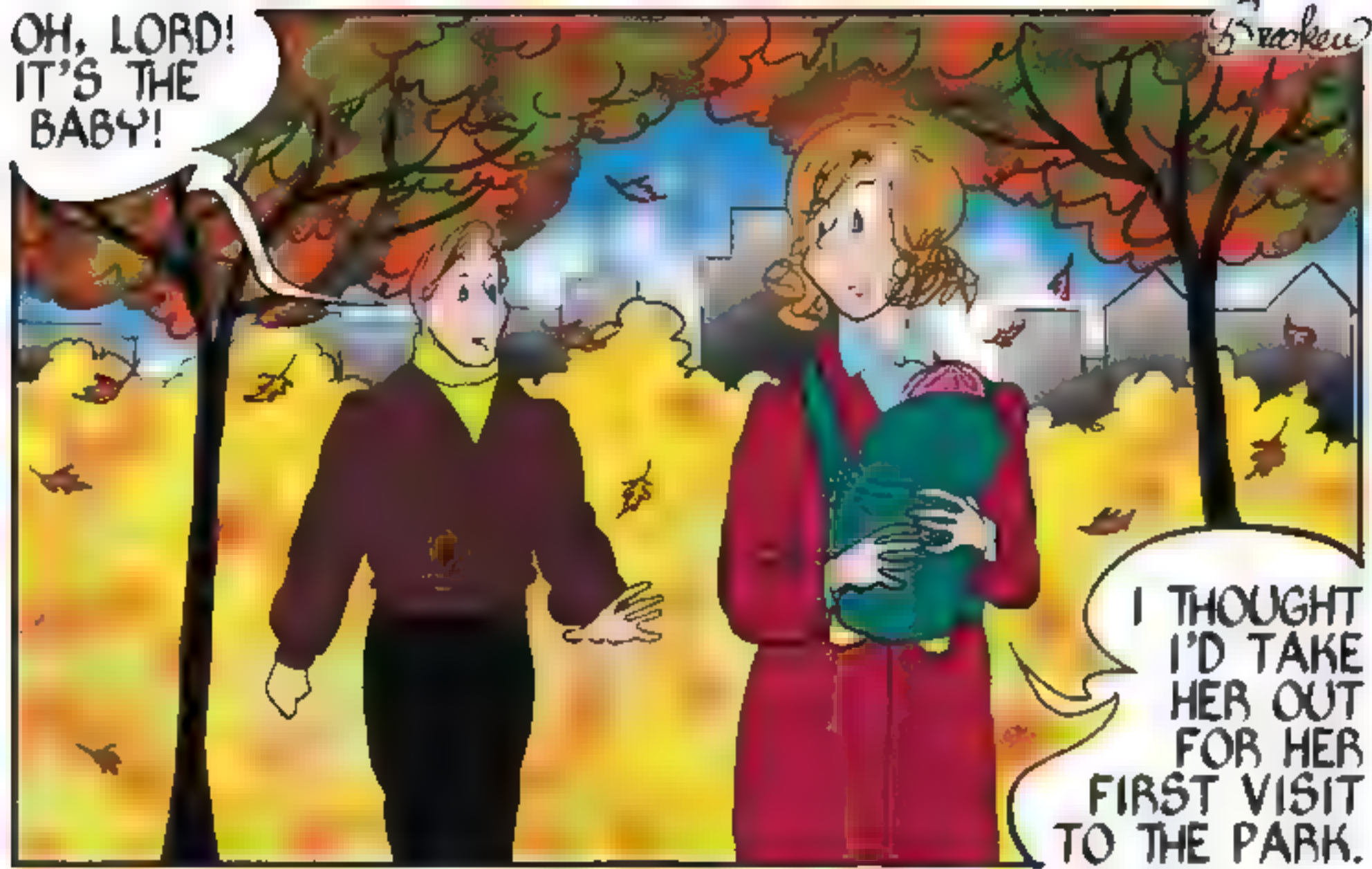
WE
WOULD
BE REMISS
NOT TO GIVE
CREDIT WHERE
CREDIT IS
DUE.

WE
WOULD
BE REMISS
NOT TO GIVE
CREDIT WHERE
CREDIT IS
DUE.

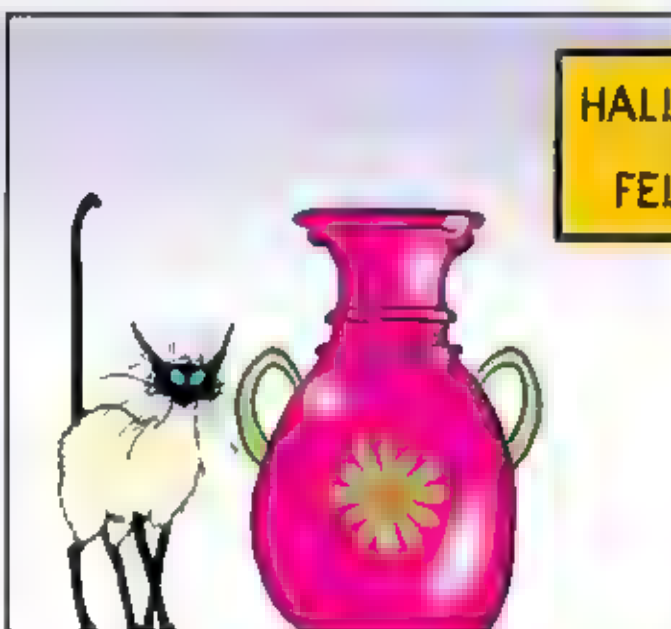
SISTER STEVEN,
THERE'S A CITIZEN'S
COMMITTEE HERE
WITH A BONE
TO PICK.

Brook

Brokers

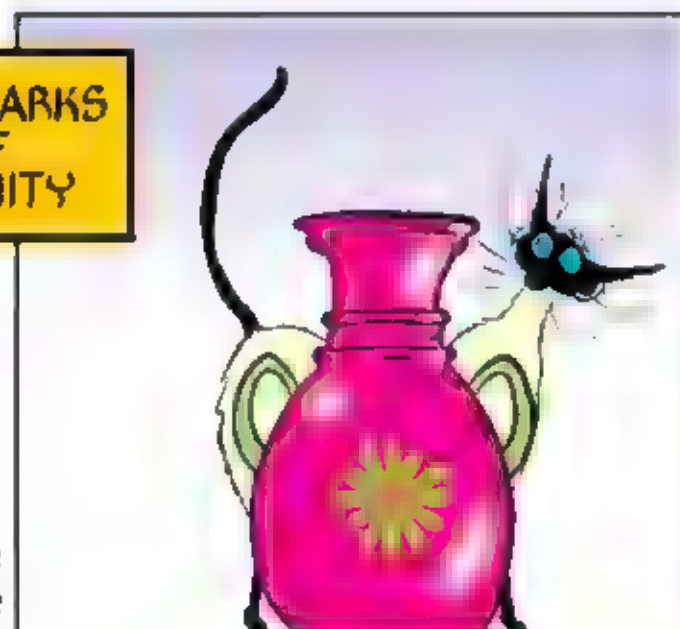






HALLMARKS
OF
FELINITY

10-16

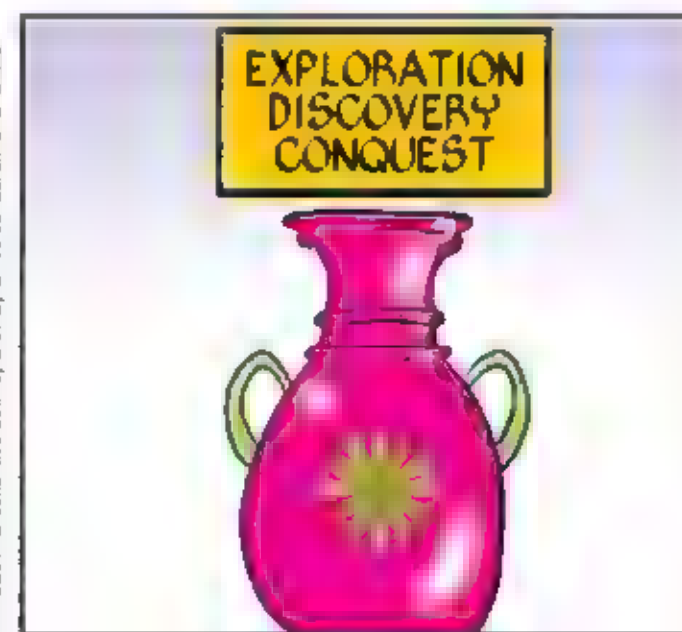


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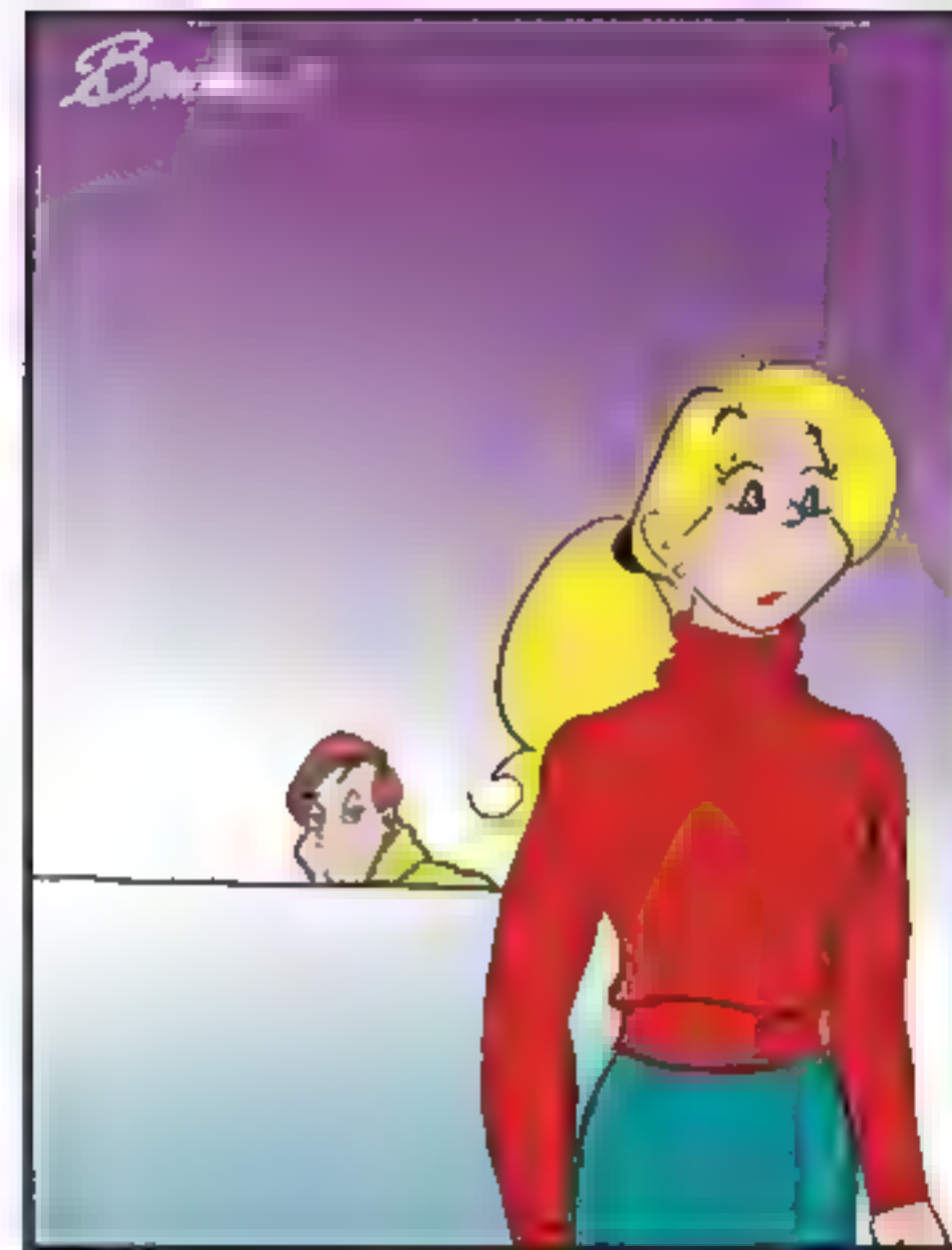
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EXPLORATION
DISCOVERY
CONQUEST



FLORENCE IS SUCH A CUTE
BABY. I REALLY WANT TO
HAVE CHILDREN. IT'S JUST
AN ISSUE OF A MOTHER
WITH THE RIGHT GENES.



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Dear Uncle Ethel,
Given that ecosystems strive toward a natural balance among all living organisms, how is it possible that the human ecosystem can be populated with such a generous serving of cretins, liars and thieves? What possible contribution can idiocy, mendacity and larceny make toward a natural balance of human life?

Puzzled in Wahoo

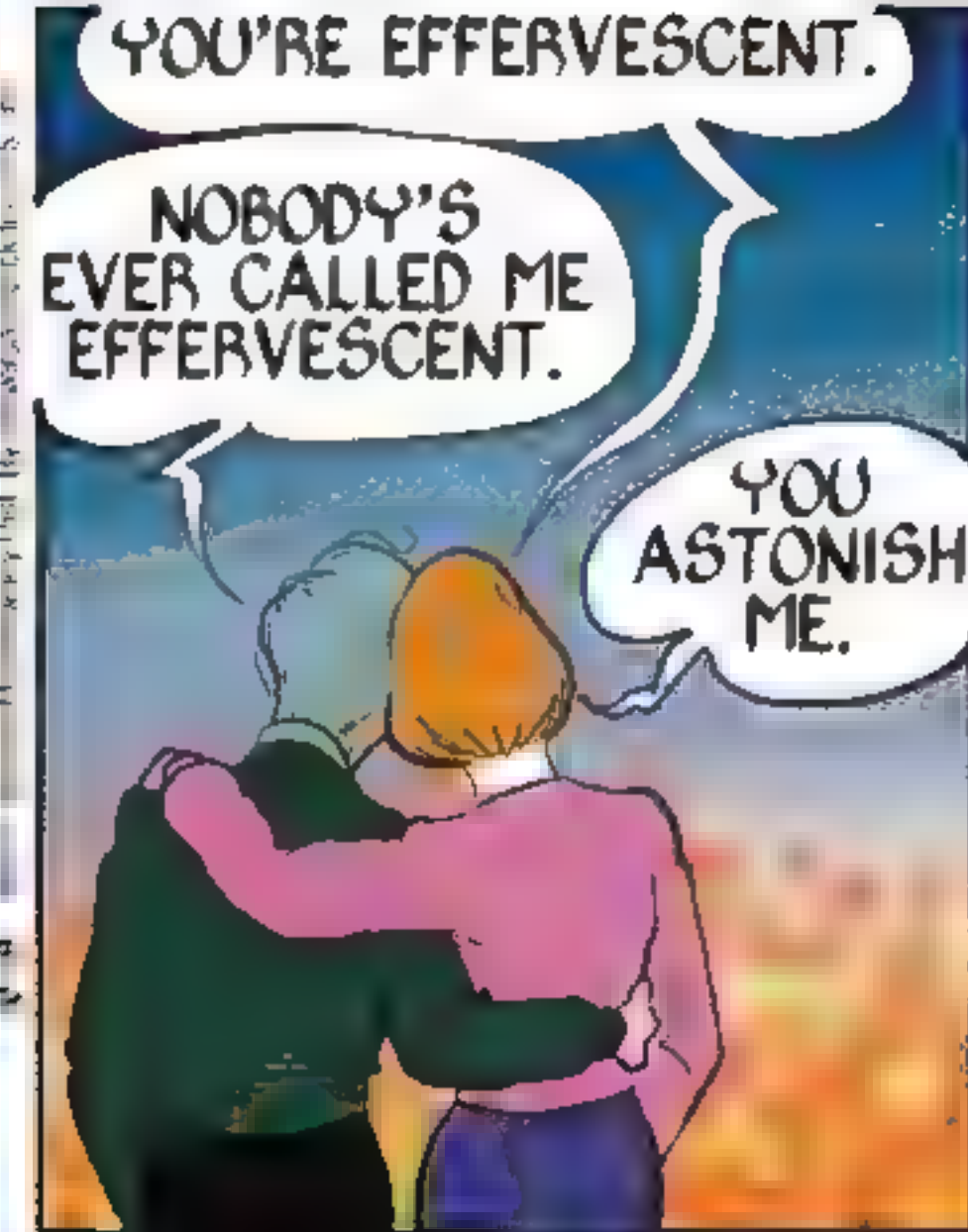
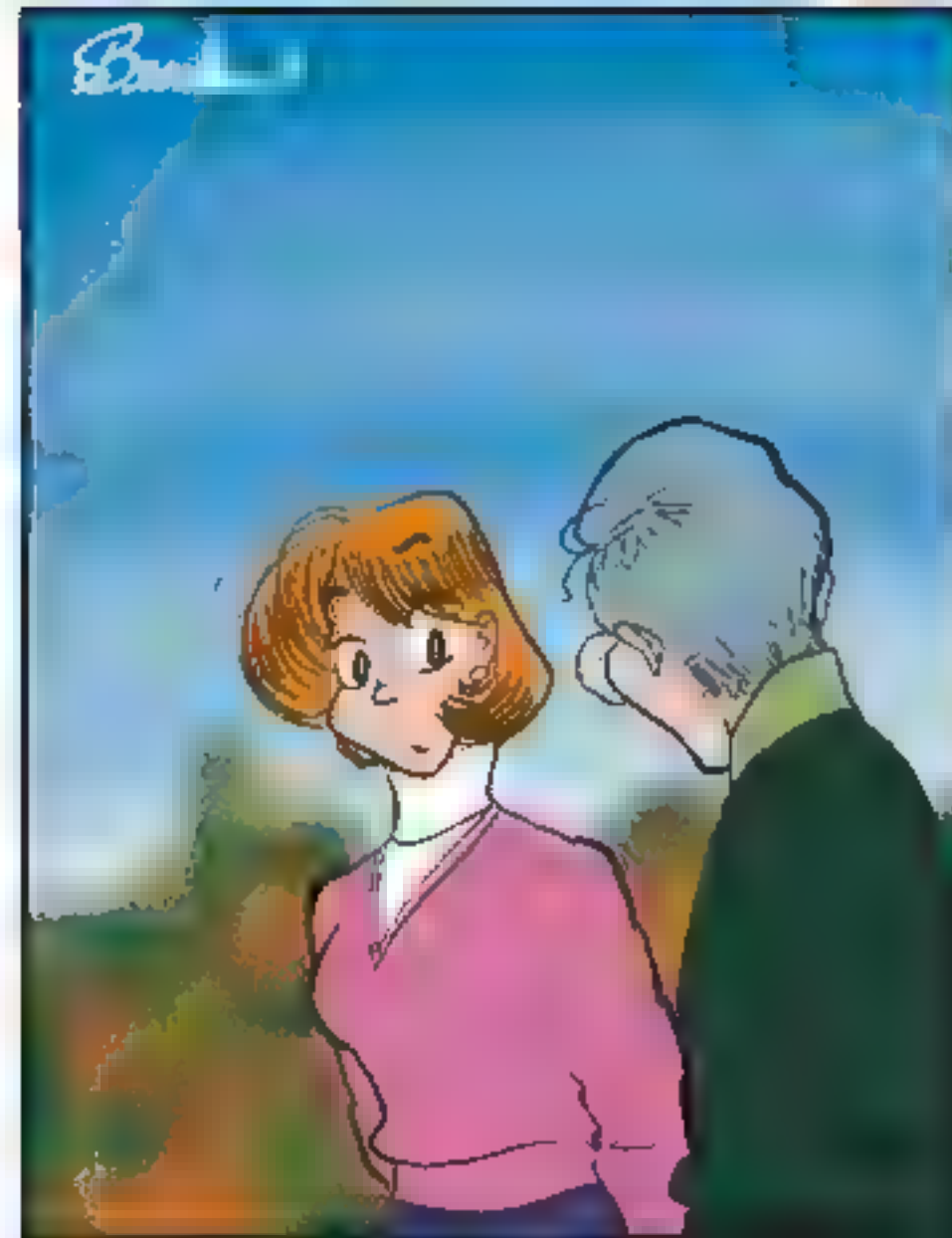


Dear Puzzled,

Without cretins,
liars and thieves,
we would be left to
deal directly with
matters of vital
importance to our-
selves, rather than
hold elections.



Broder





Dear Uncle Ethel,

I am concerned about my son, Henry. He loves participating in Show-and-Tell at school, but he never takes anything to show. All he does is tell. I've tried to convince him that the point is to support his story with evidence. But he won't change.

Any advice?

No Show in Wissahickon

Dear No Show,

Has Henry considered candidacy for high public office when he grows up?

Sounds like a good fit.

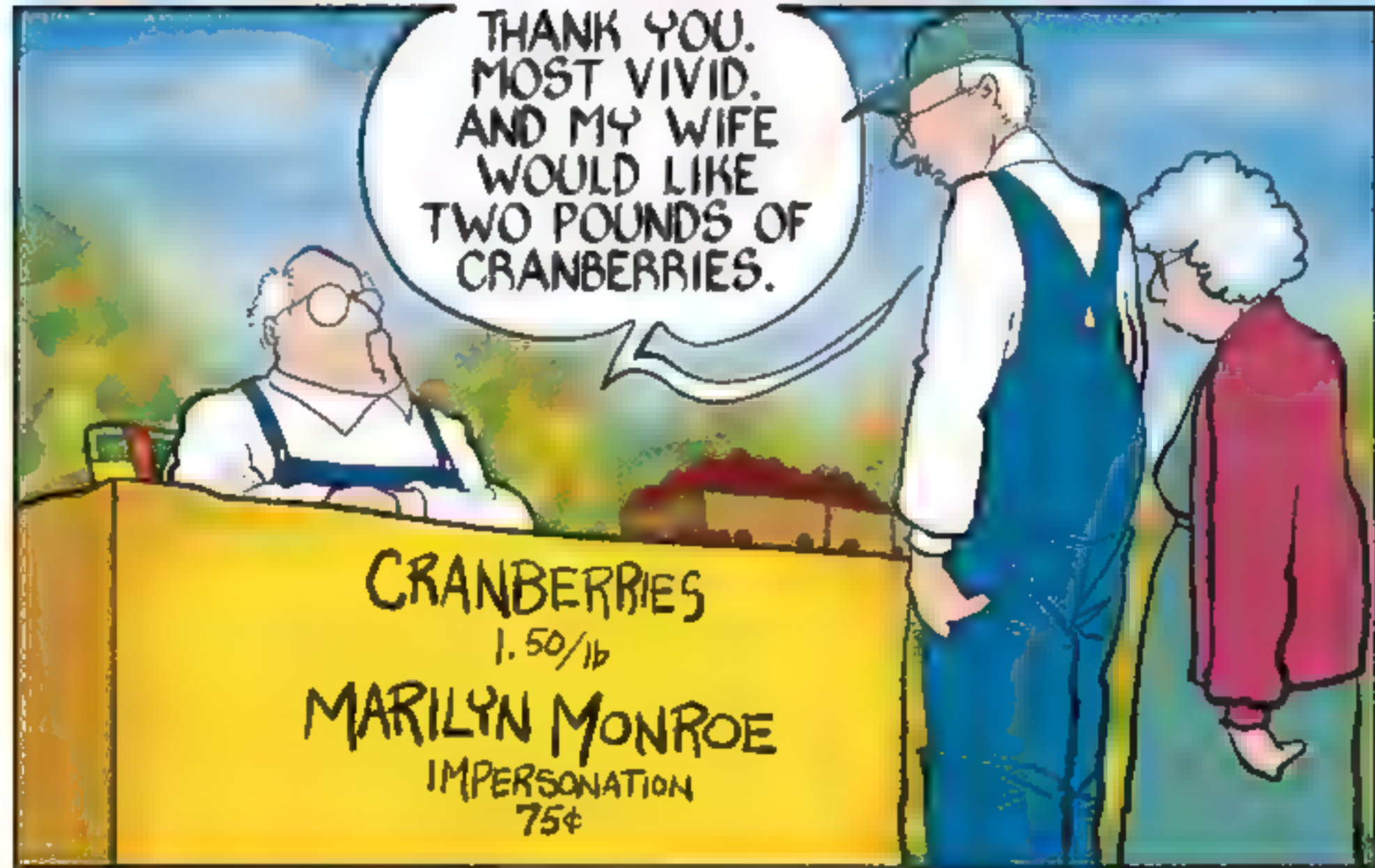
Backus

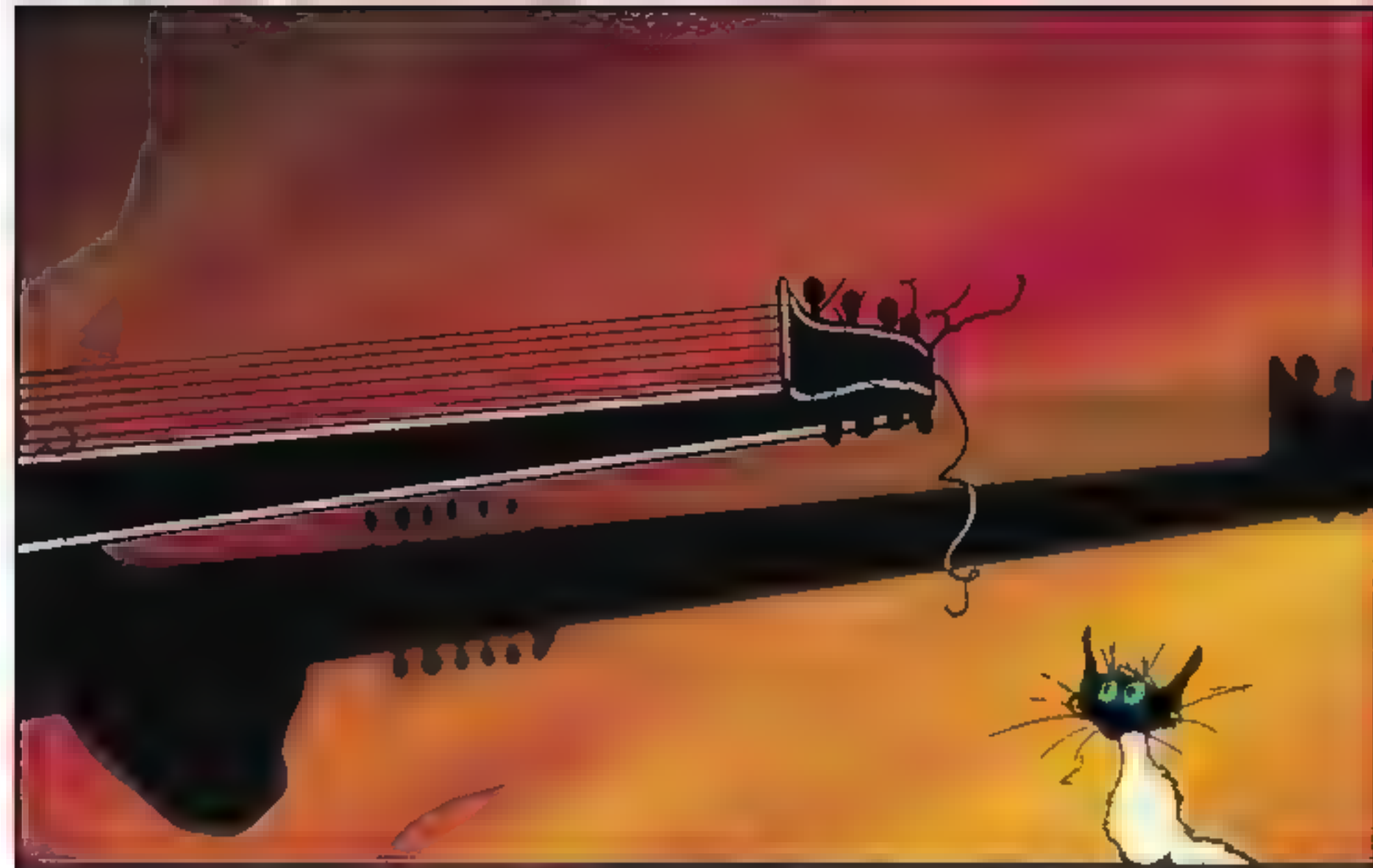


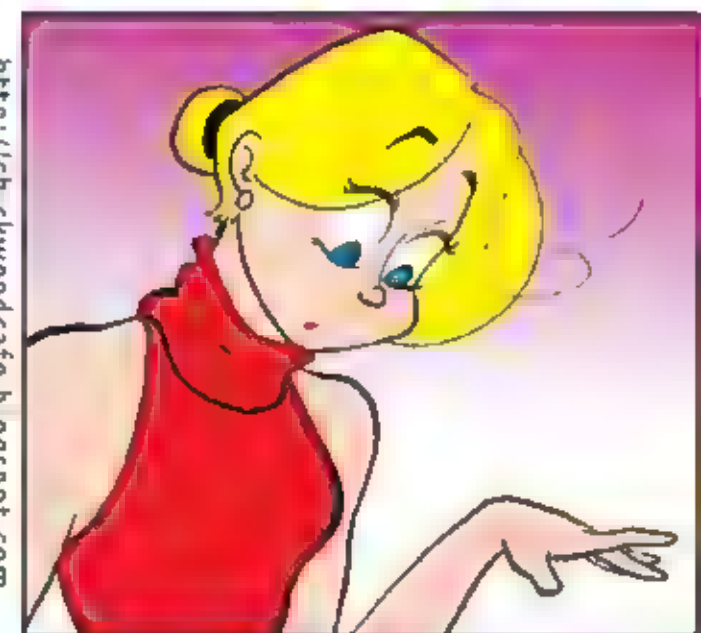


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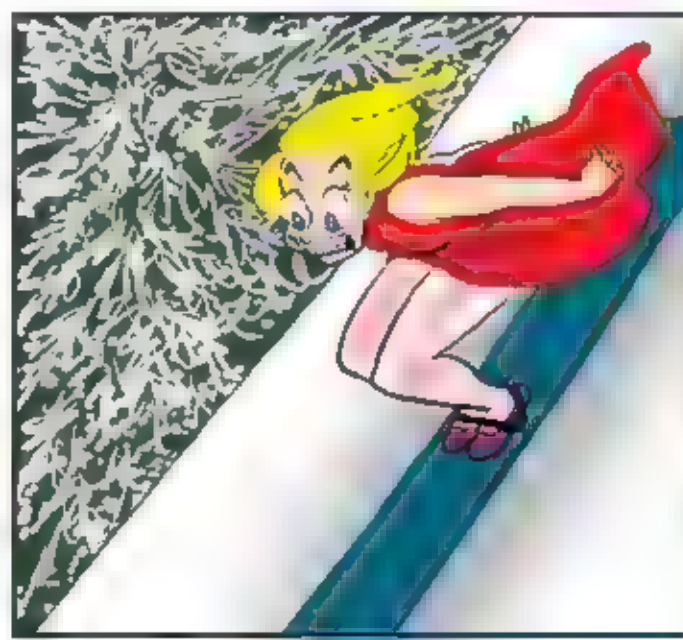
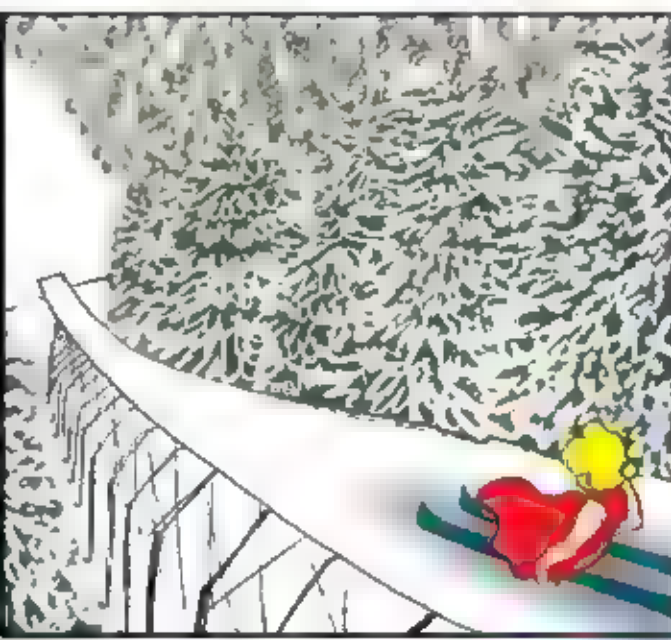
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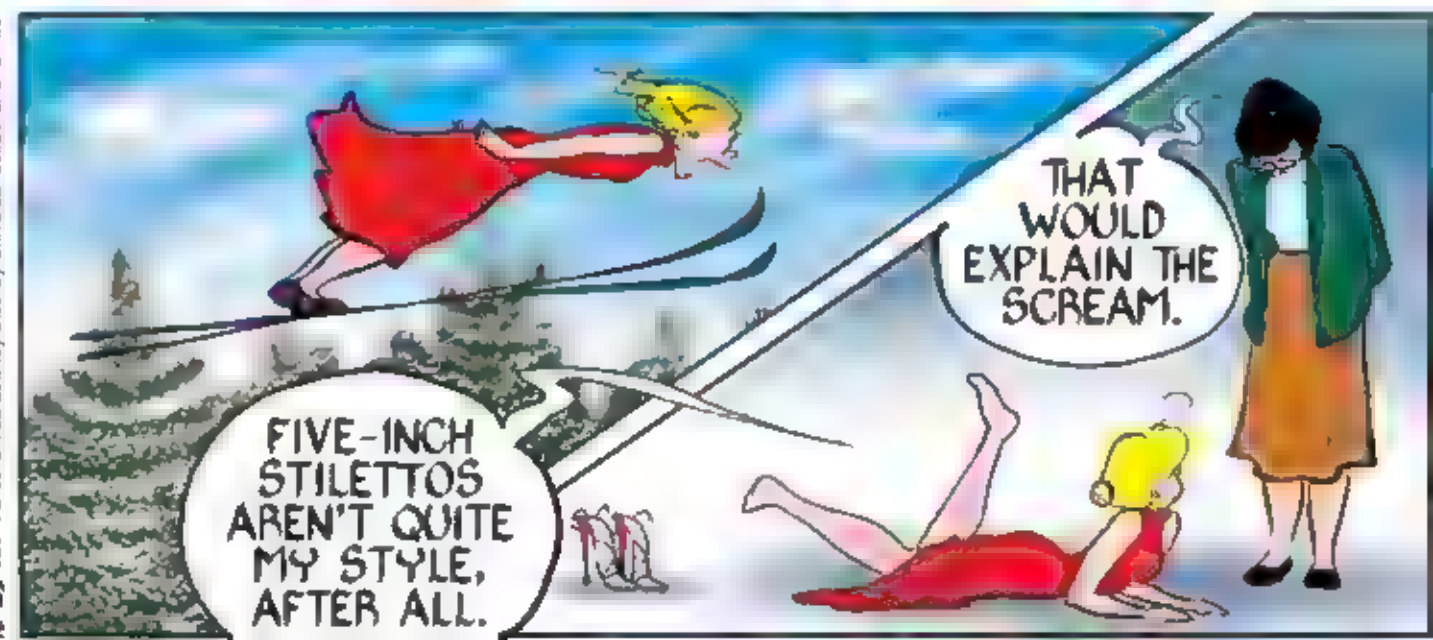




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SAY HELLO TO SPHINXTER, THE MOBILE COMMENTS WART.
DO YOU EVER WISH YOU COULD HAVE A COMMENTS
BOARD WHERE YOU COULD INSTANTLY POST DIATRIBES,
CRITICISM, LIBELS AND JUST PLAIN PATHETIC,
UNGRAMMATICAL COMMENTARY ON
EVERYTHING IN YOUR DAILY LIFE,
AND ALL WITH THE COWARDLY SELF-
IMPORTANT ANONYMITY THAT YOU
SO TREASURE ON THE INTERNET?
WELL, WISH NO
LONGER! IT'S
SPHINXTER!



Bracken

WITH SPHINXTER, NOT A MOMENT
OR A PERSON WILL PASS THAT
CAN'T BE JUDGED, DERIDED, RAILED
AGAINST, CONDEMNED OR THREATENED...
AND ALL IN THE
RECLINING-CHAIR-LIKE
COMFORT OF TOTAL
CONFIDENTIALITY.
...REMEMBER,
YOU DIDN'T
SAY IT,
**IT WAS
SPHINXTER!**
BUT WAIT!
THERE'S
MORE...



HEY!
FAT GASBAG!
ARE YOU
DONE?!

LET'S TAKE SPHINXTER, THE MOBILE
COMMENTS
WART, OUT
FOR A
TEST
DRIVE.
MAKE A
COMMENT,
SPHINXTER.

YER
STOOPID 'N'
FAT 'N' OUGHTA
DIE!



WHY?

CUZ.

THANK
YOU,
SPHINXTER.

SHOVE
IT.



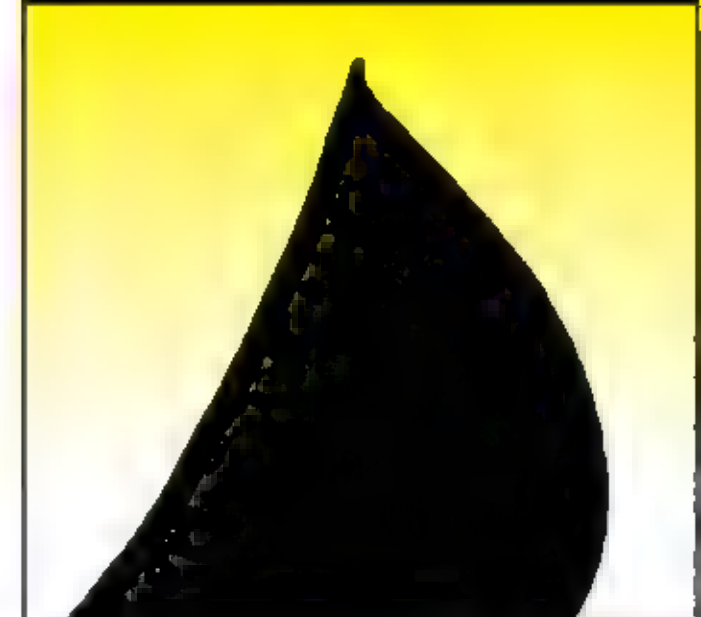




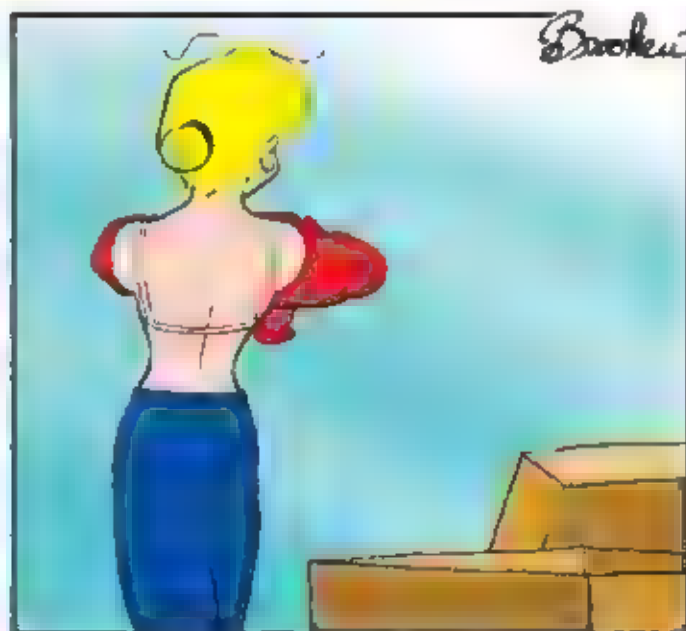




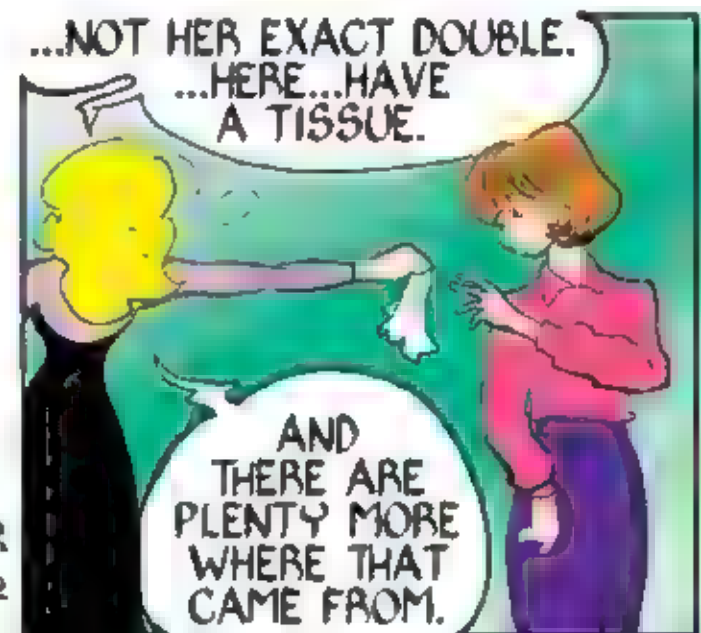
9 CHICKWEED LANE



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<http://chickweedcafe.blogspot.com>

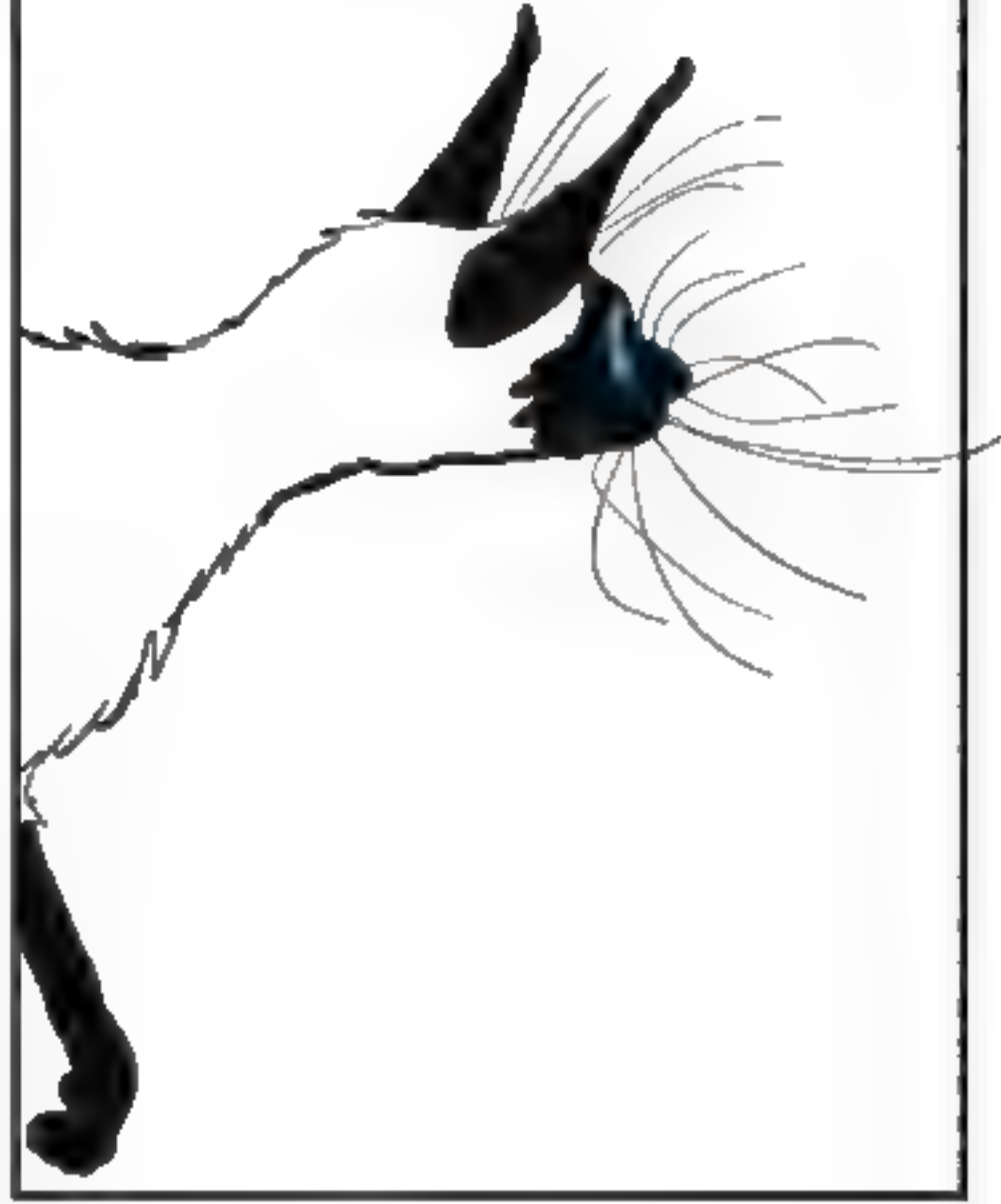
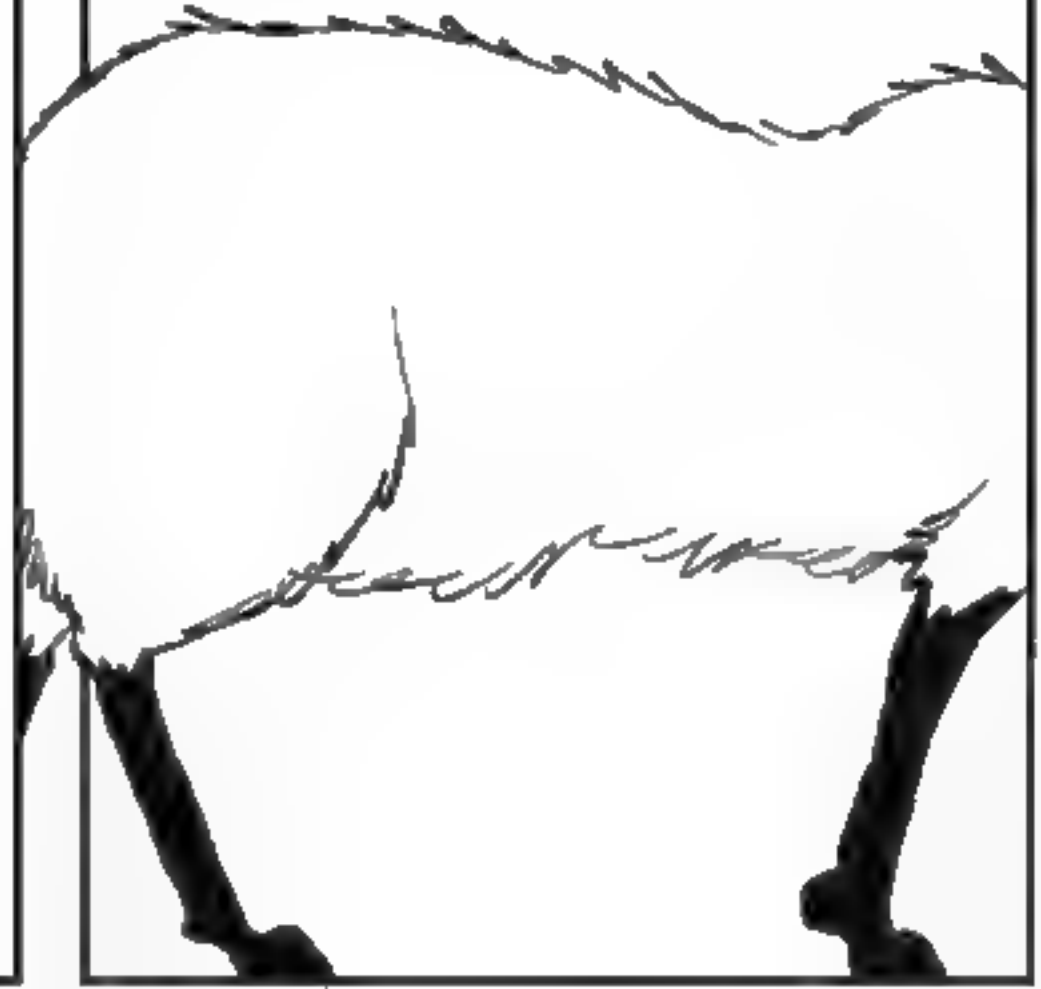


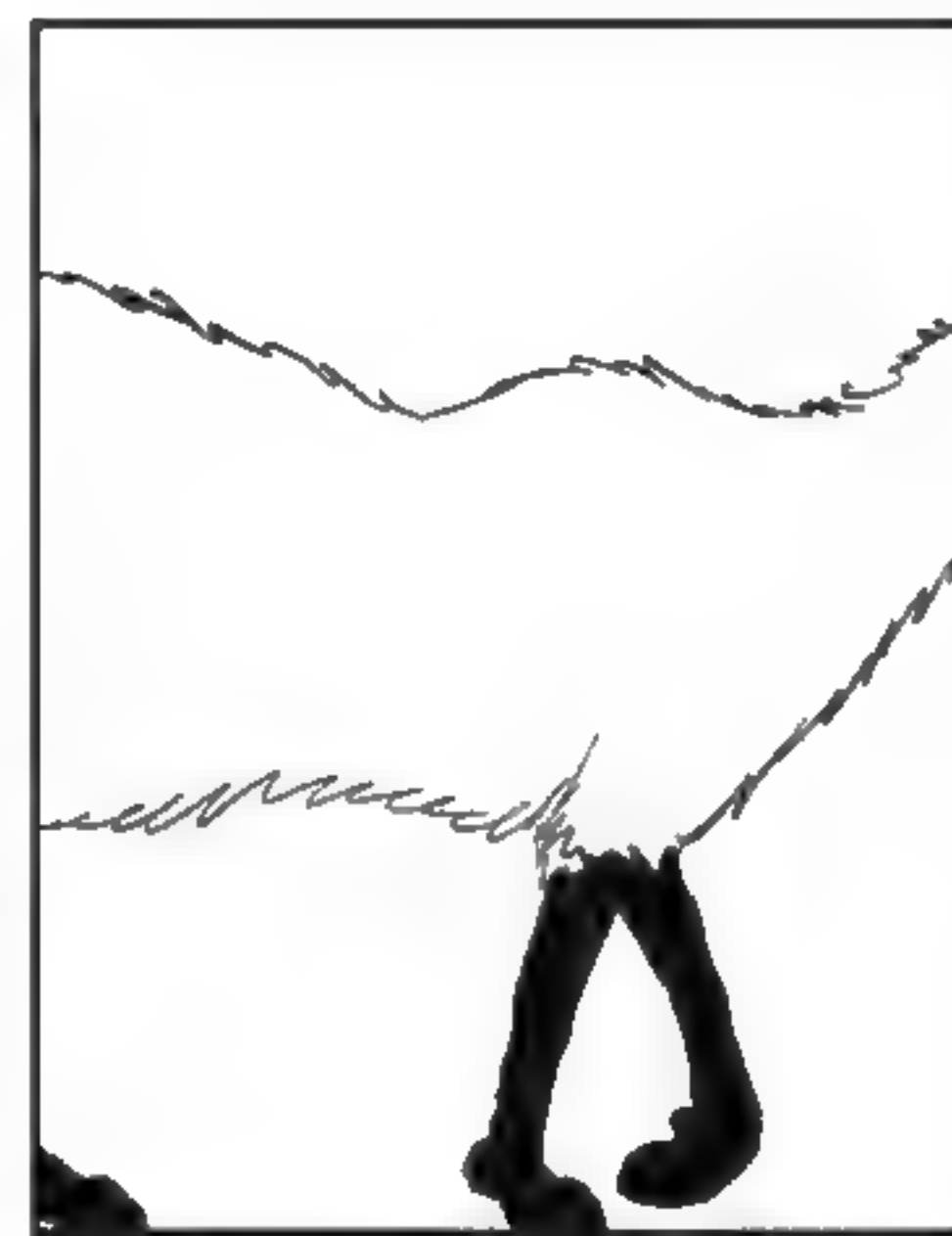
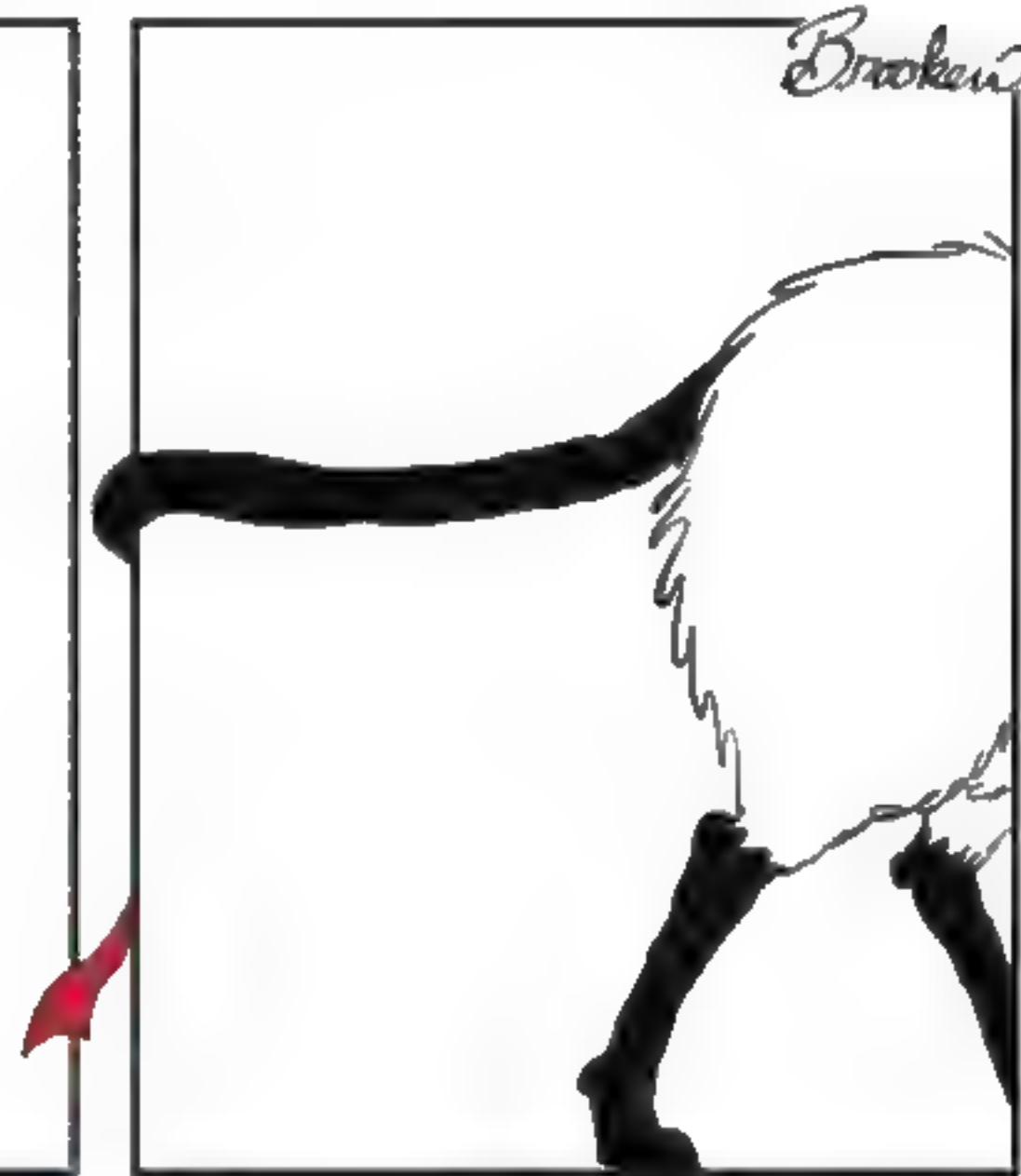


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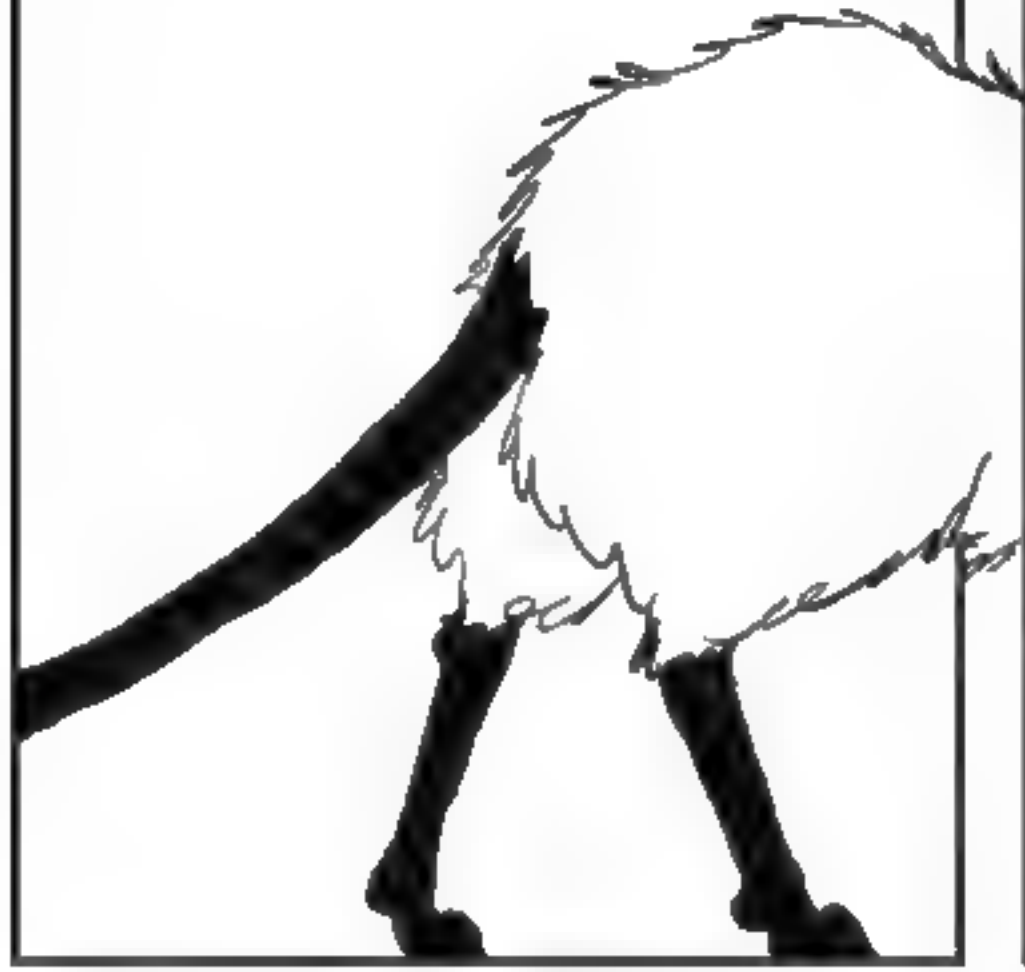


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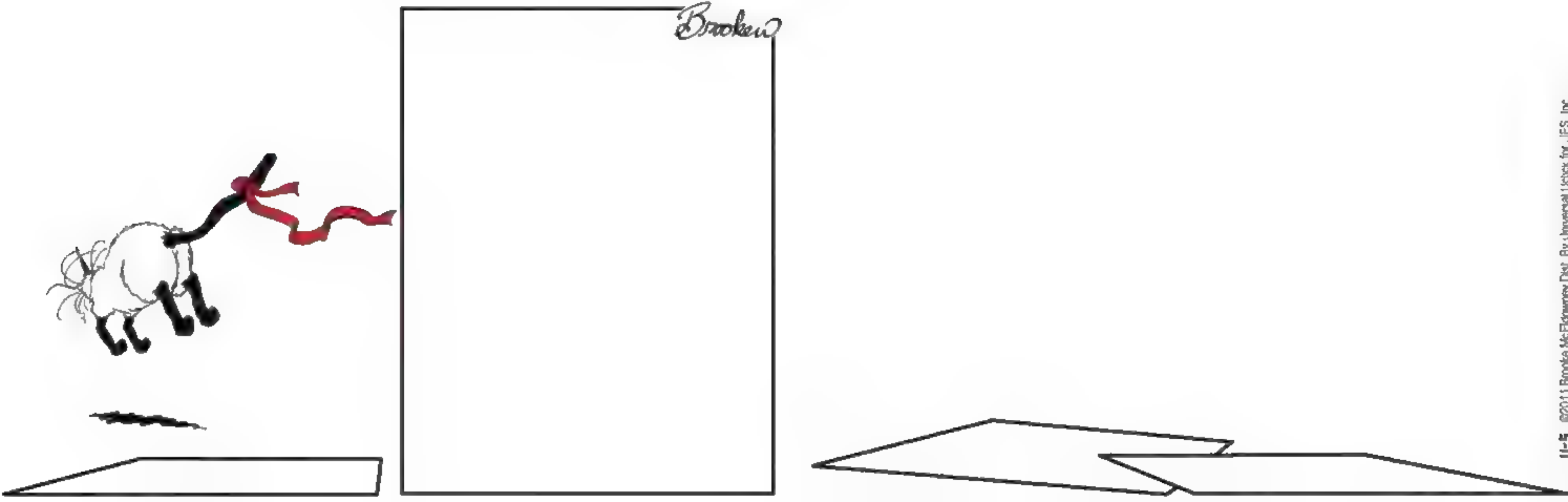


Broken



Broken



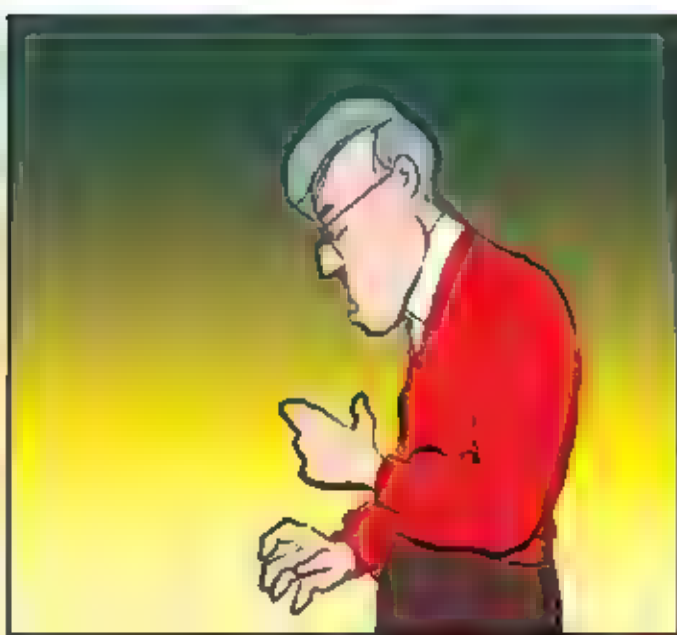


9 CHICKWEED LANE

®

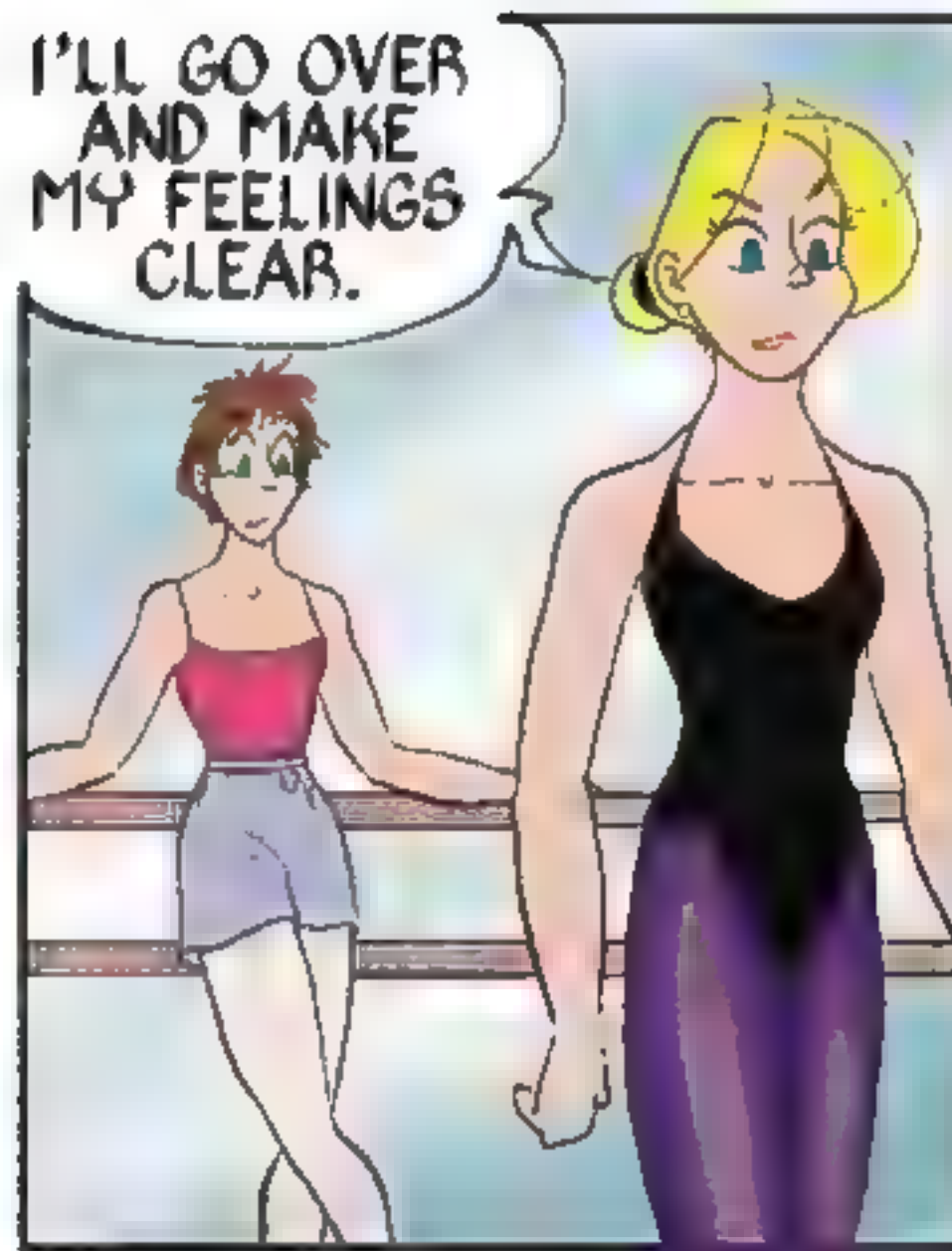
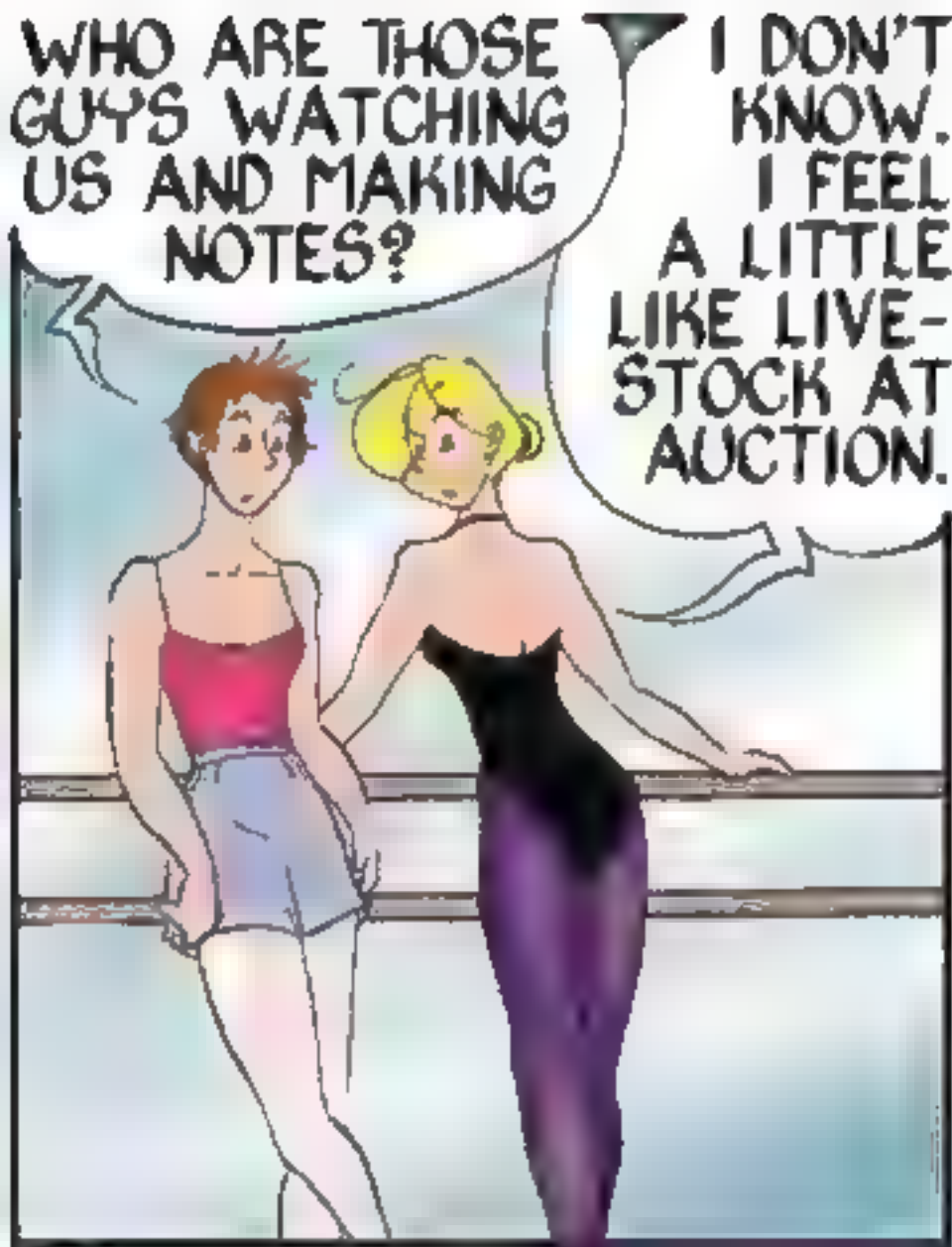


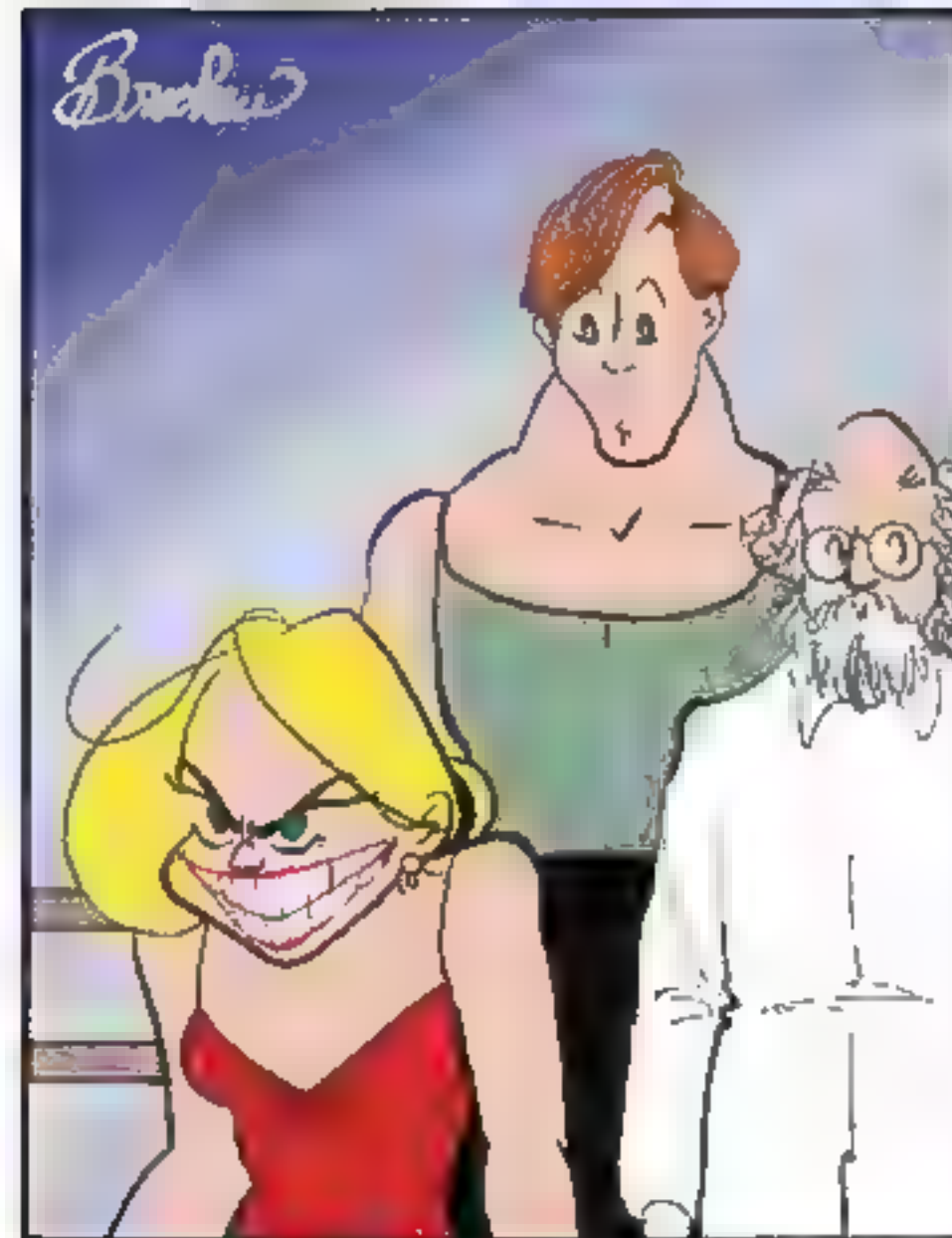
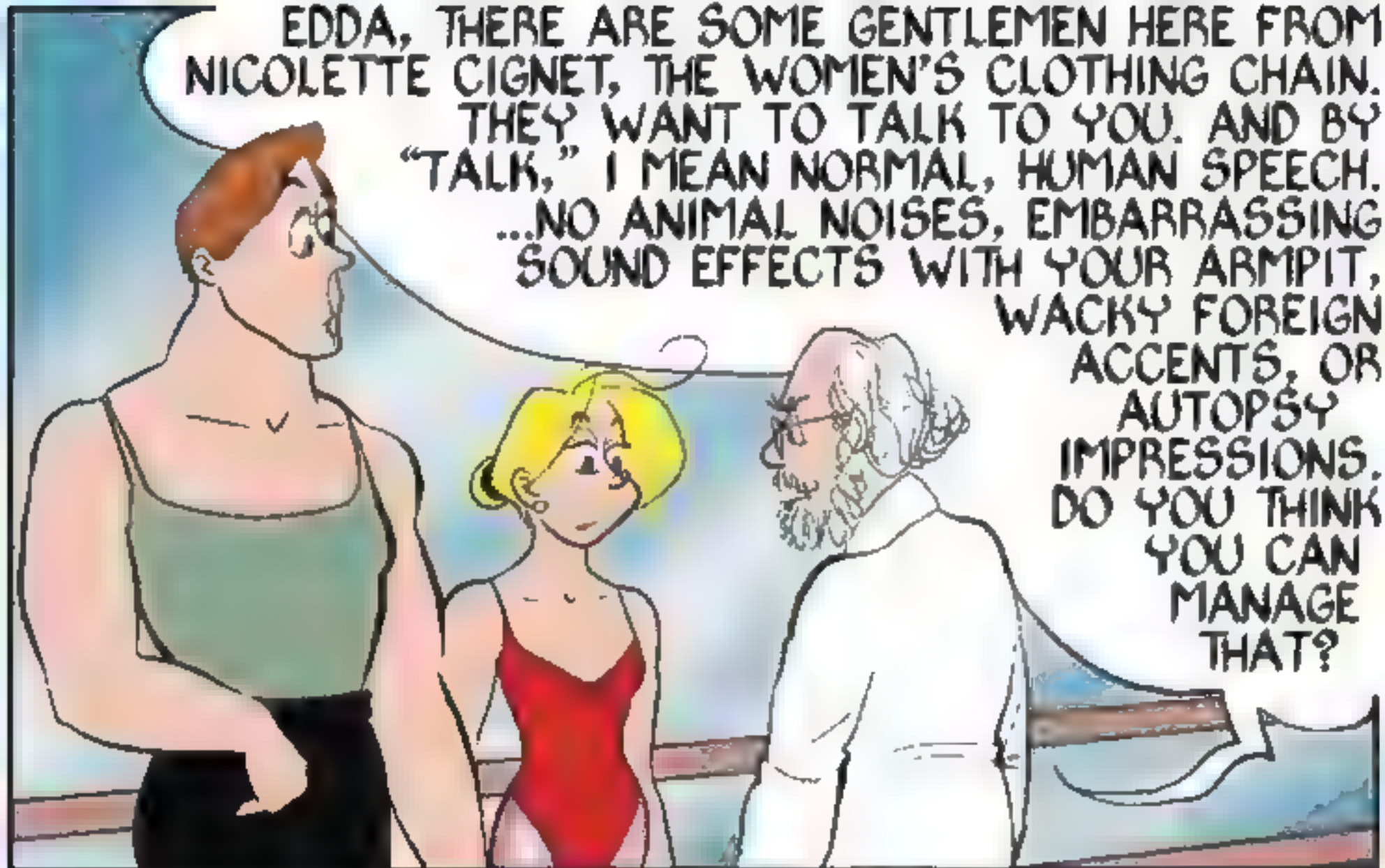
<http://chickweedcafe.blogspot.com>

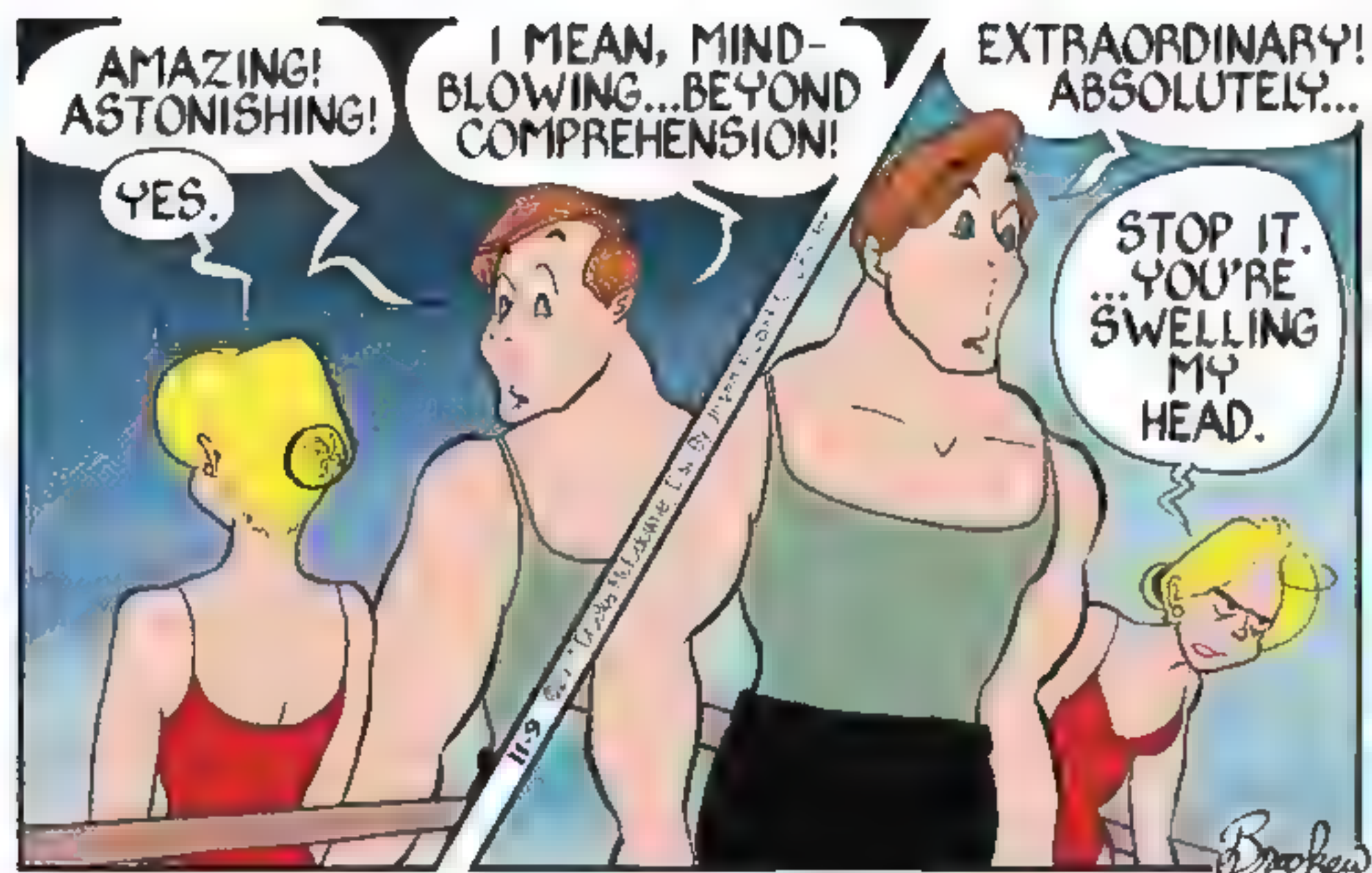
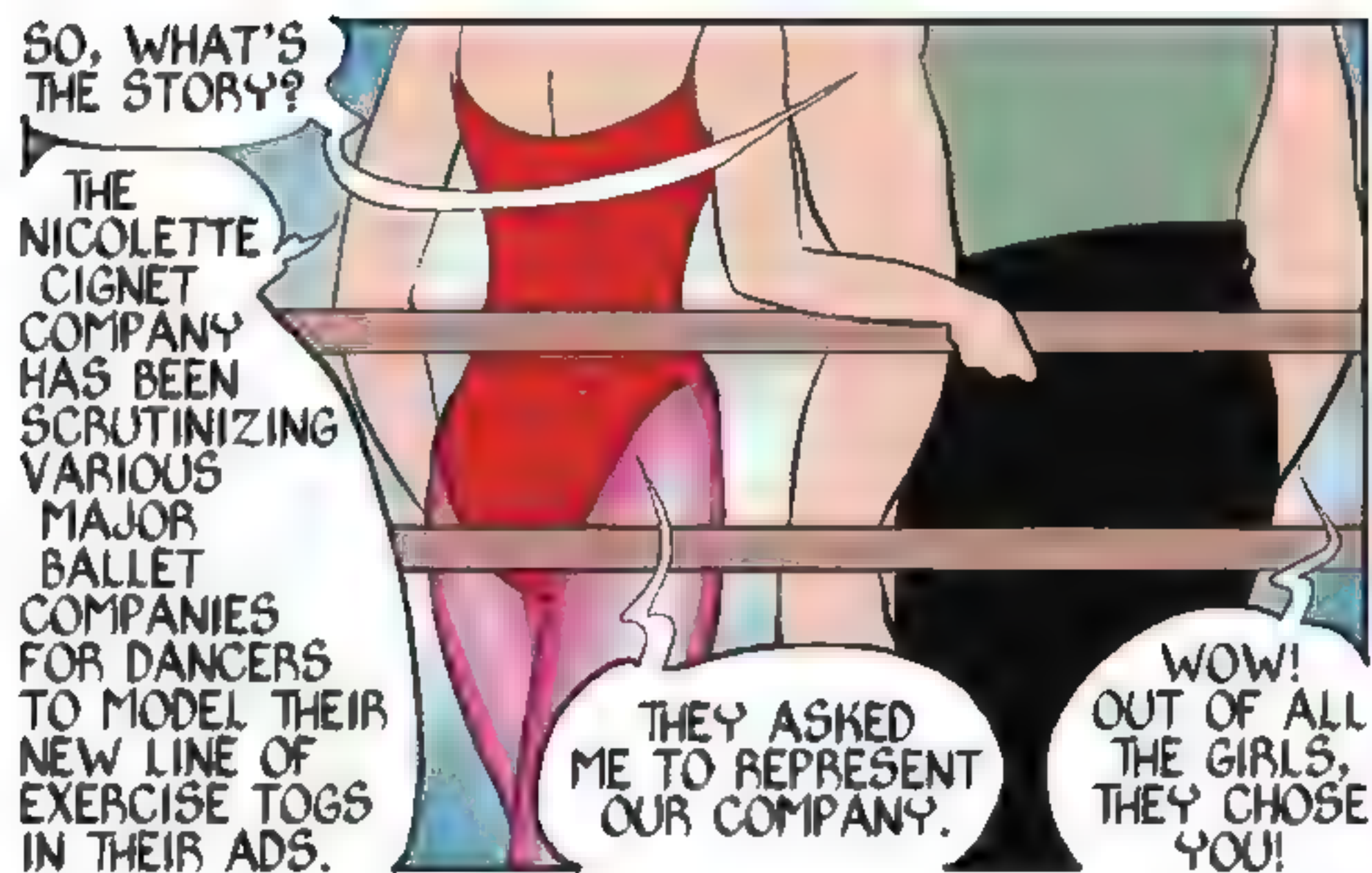


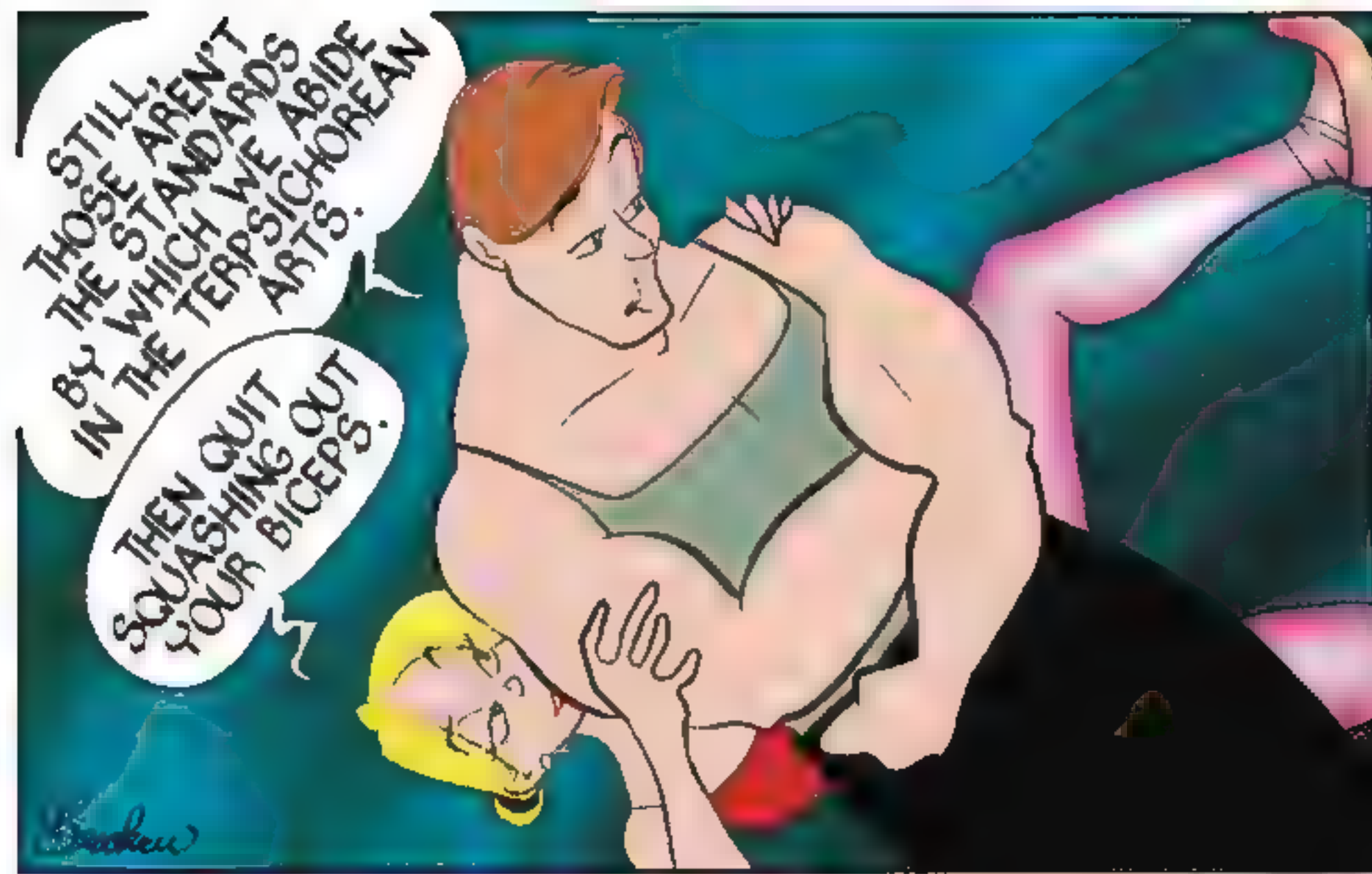
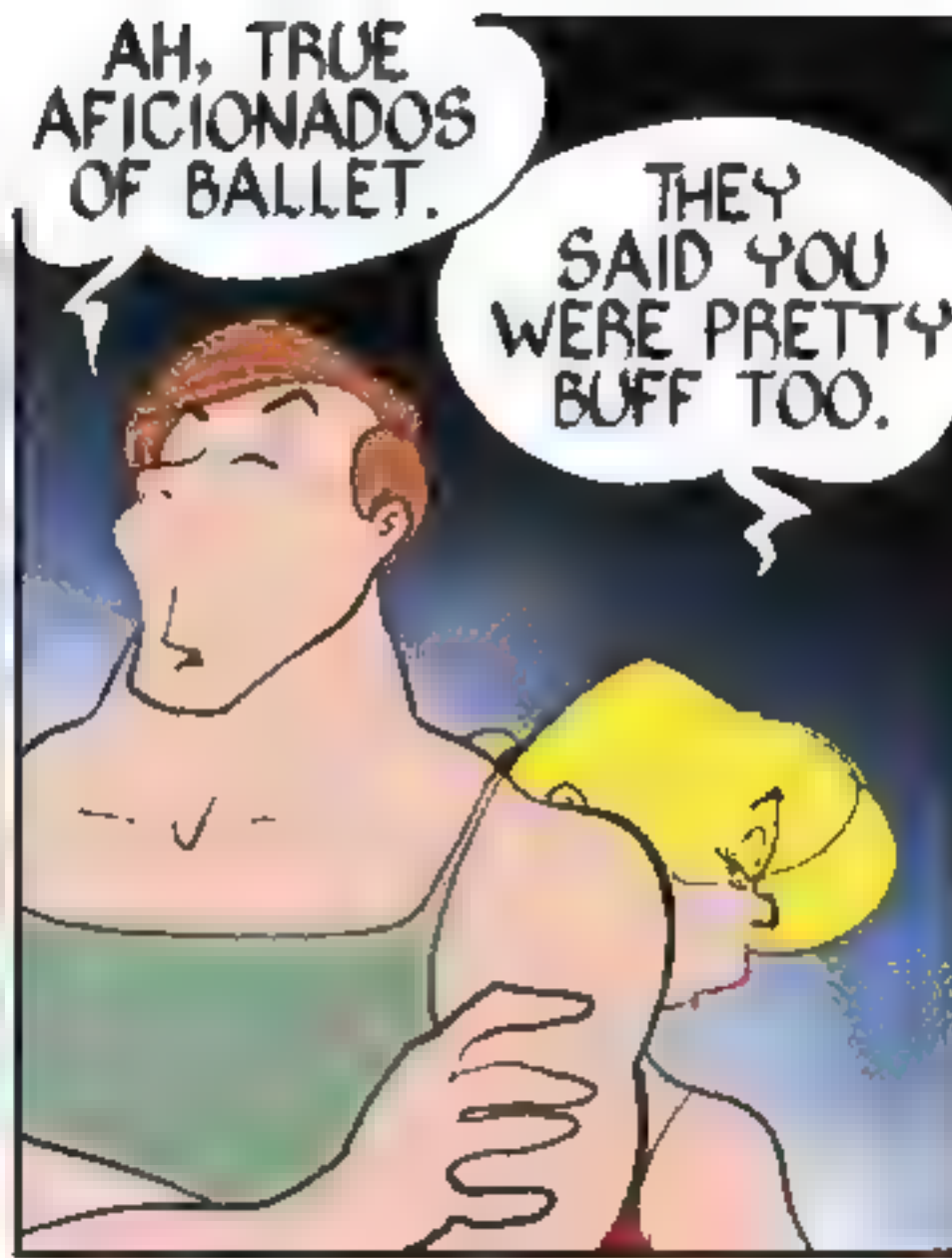
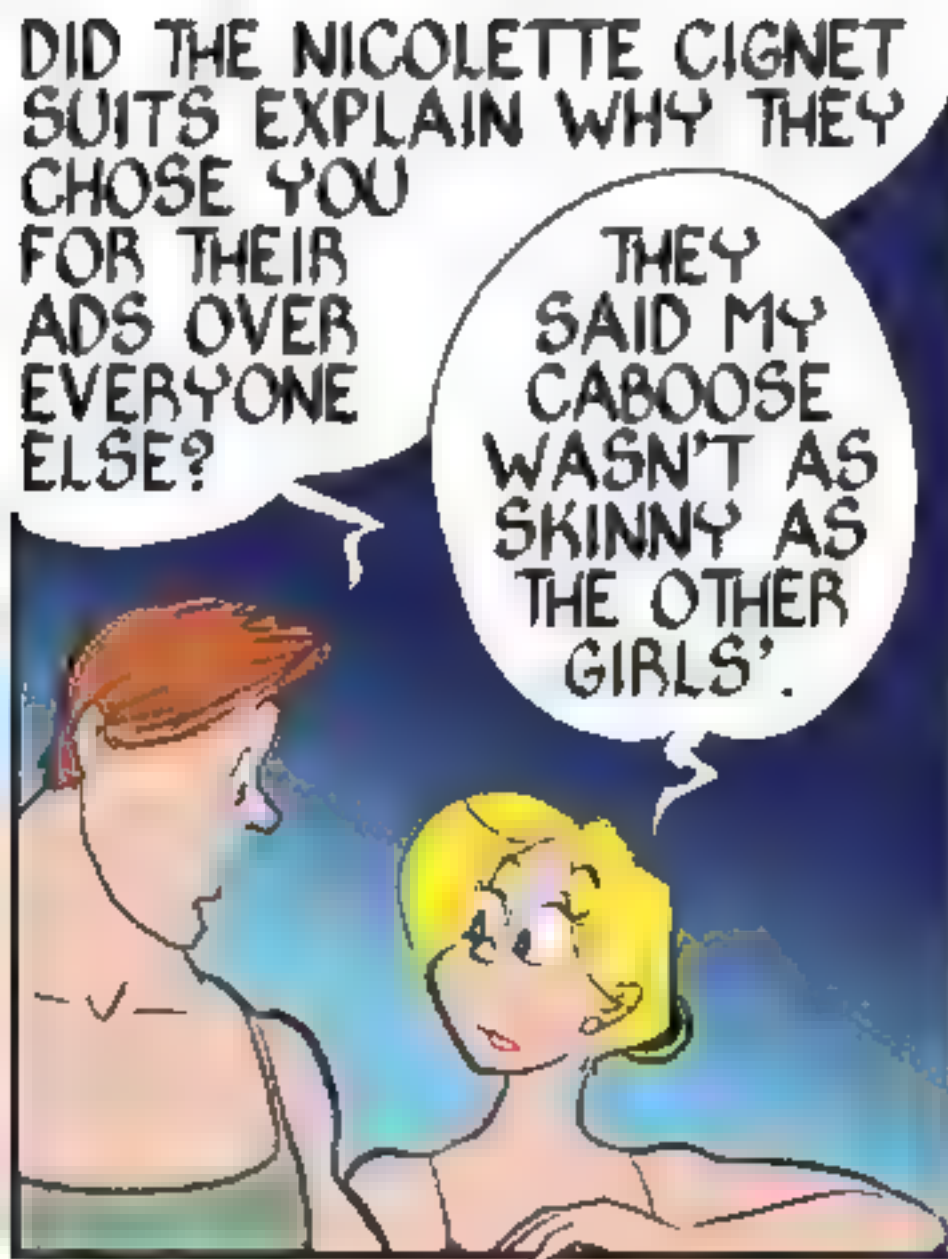
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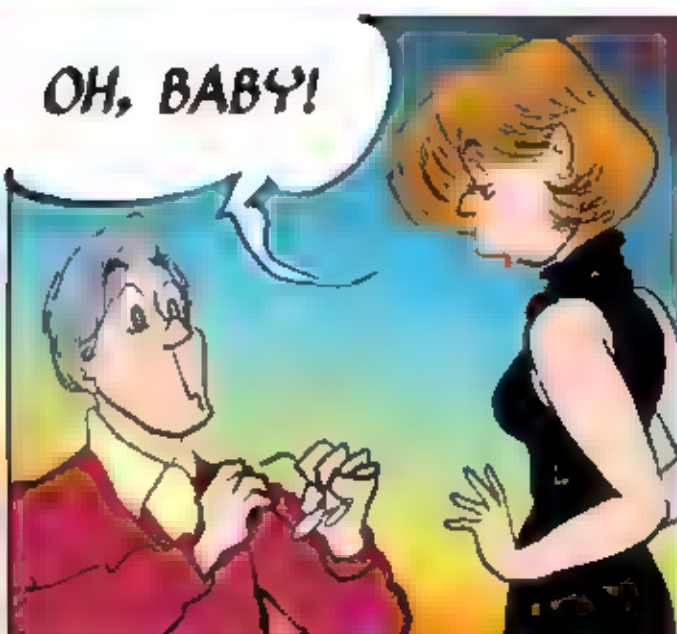
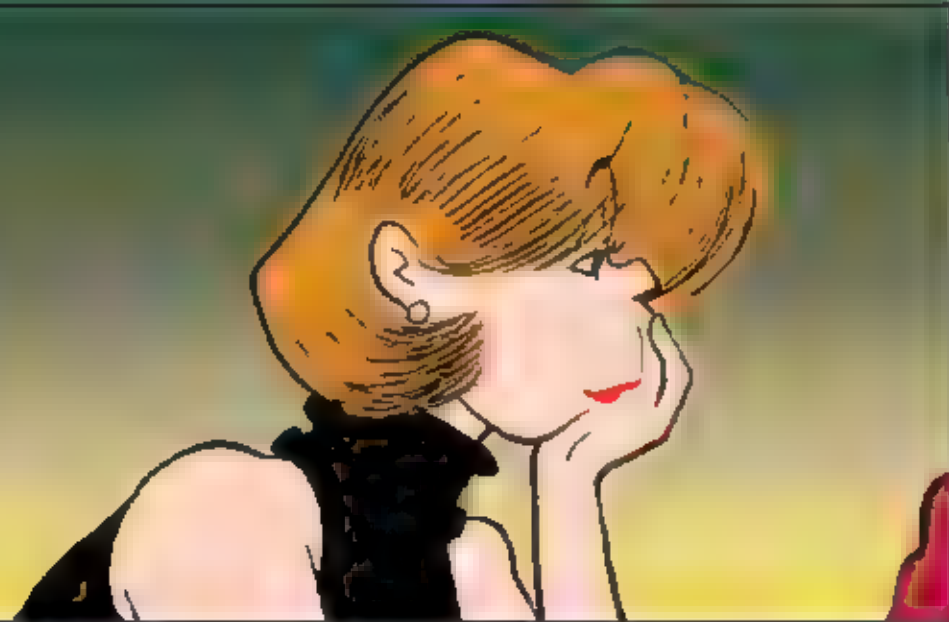




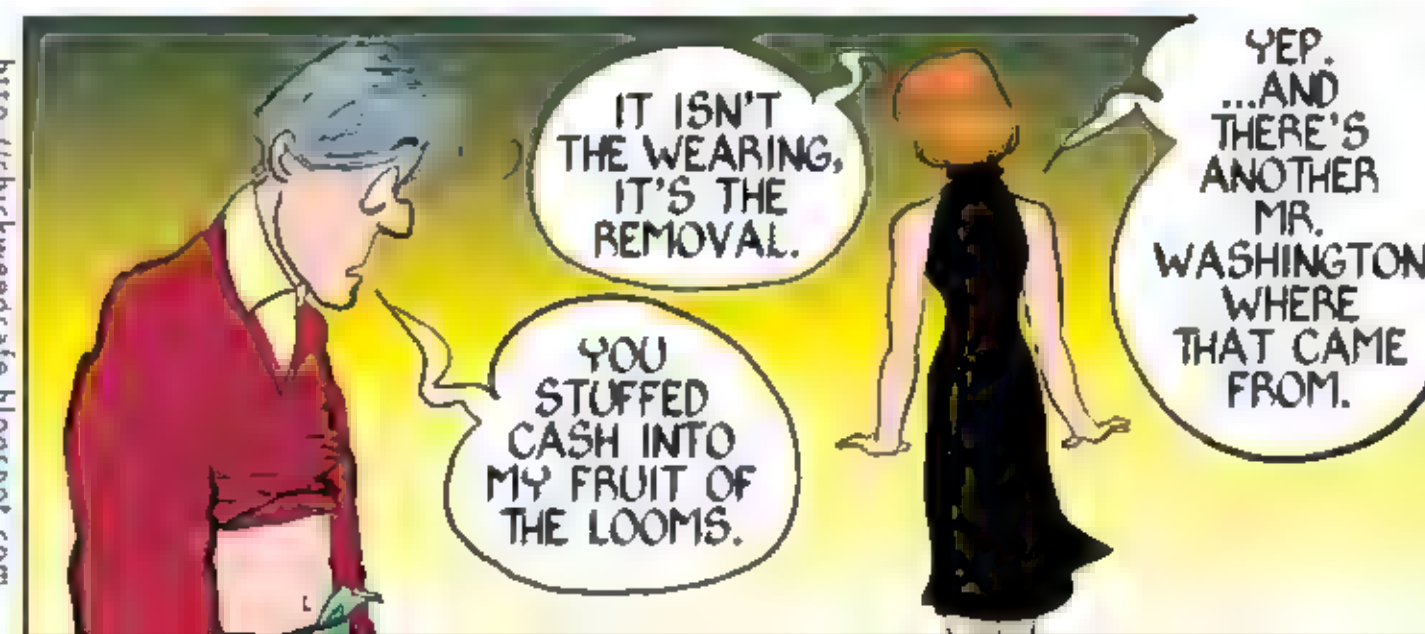


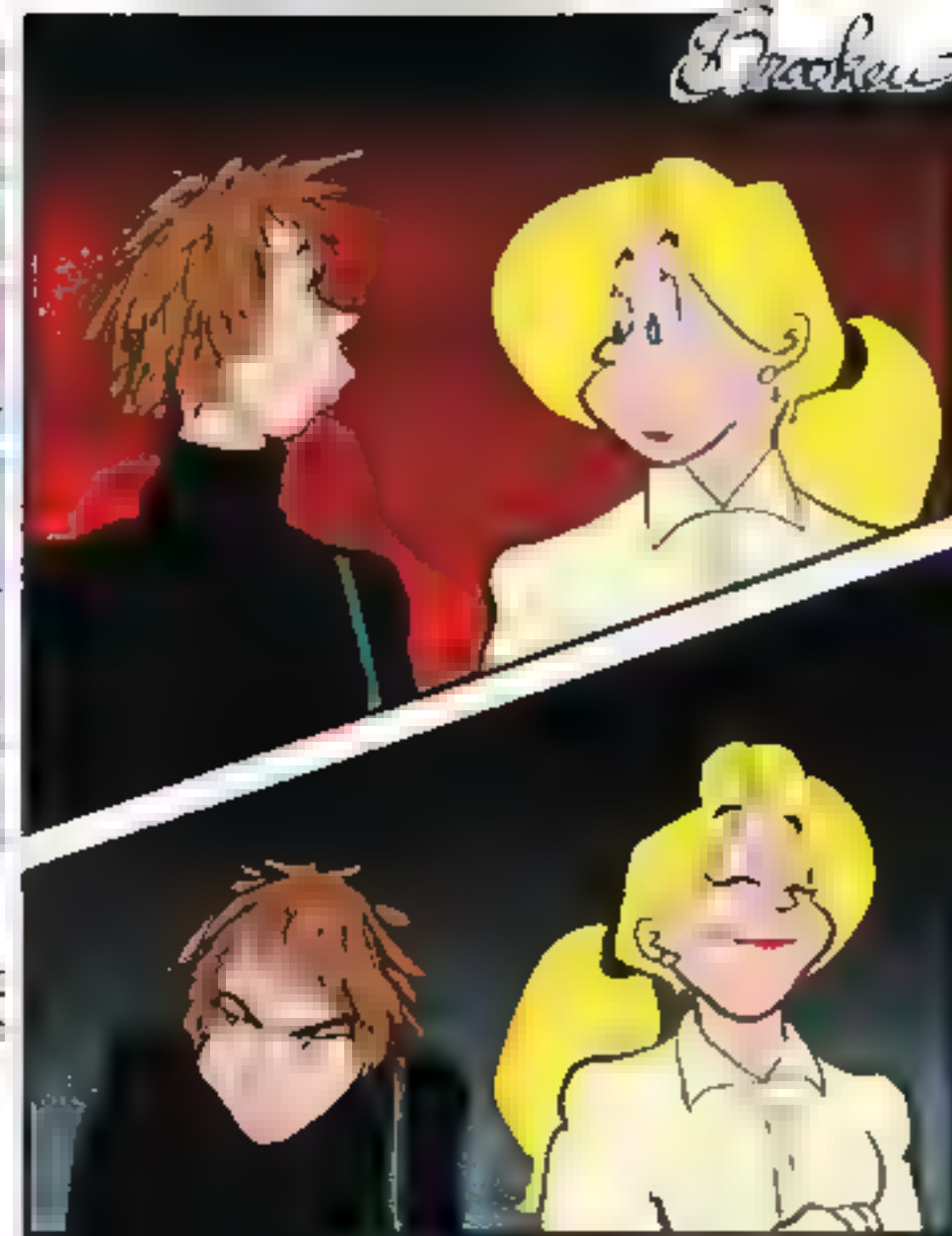
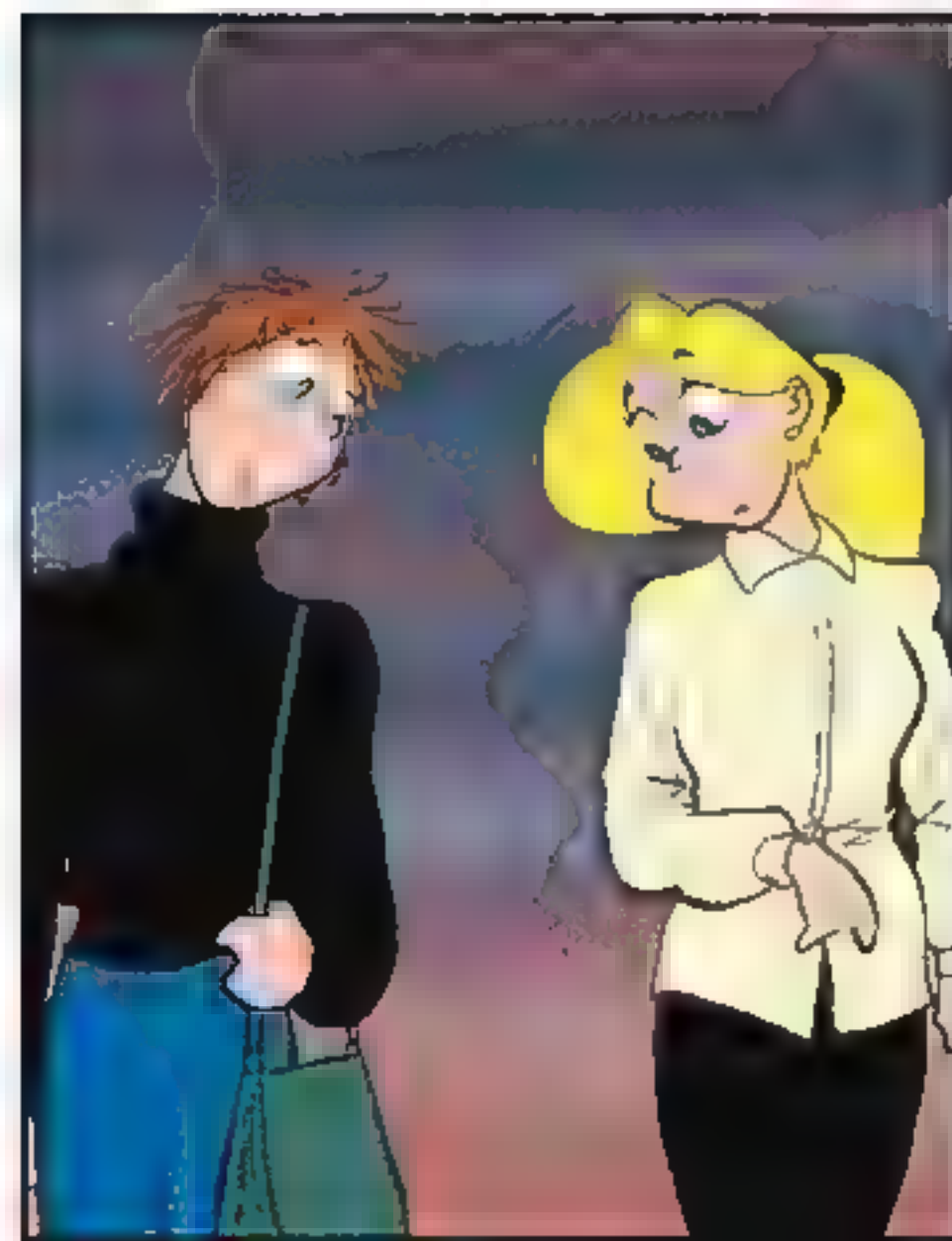
9 CHICKWEED LANE

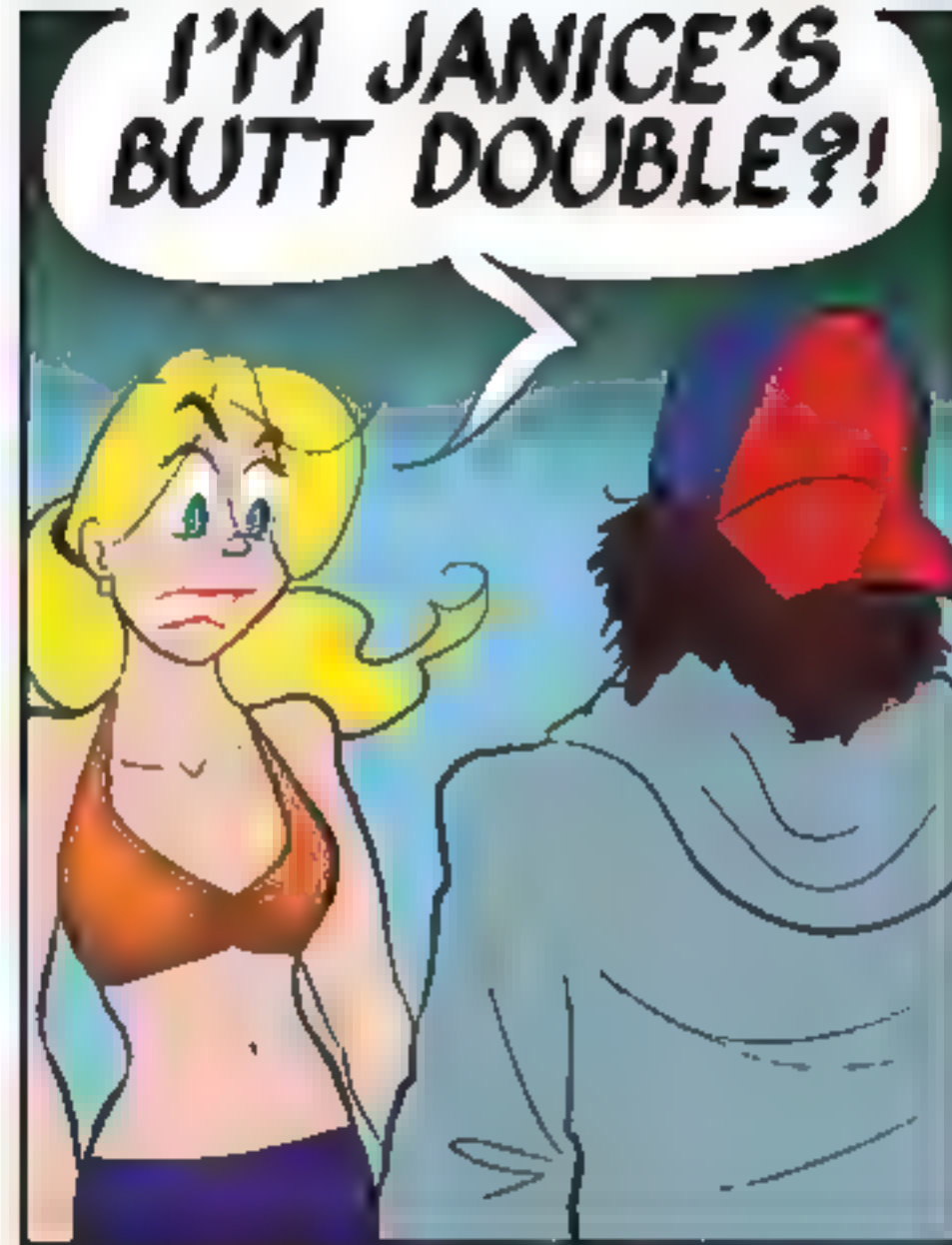
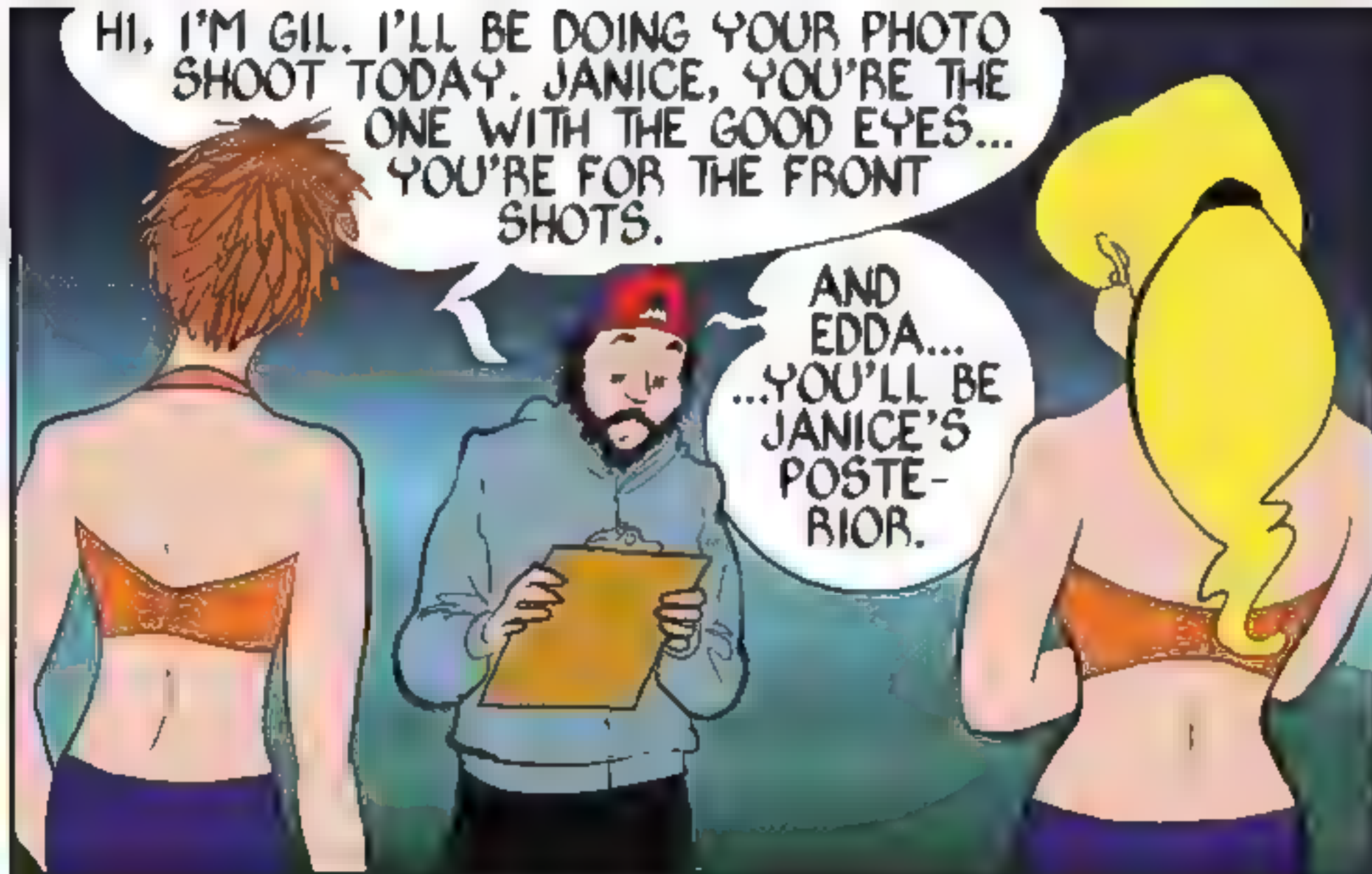
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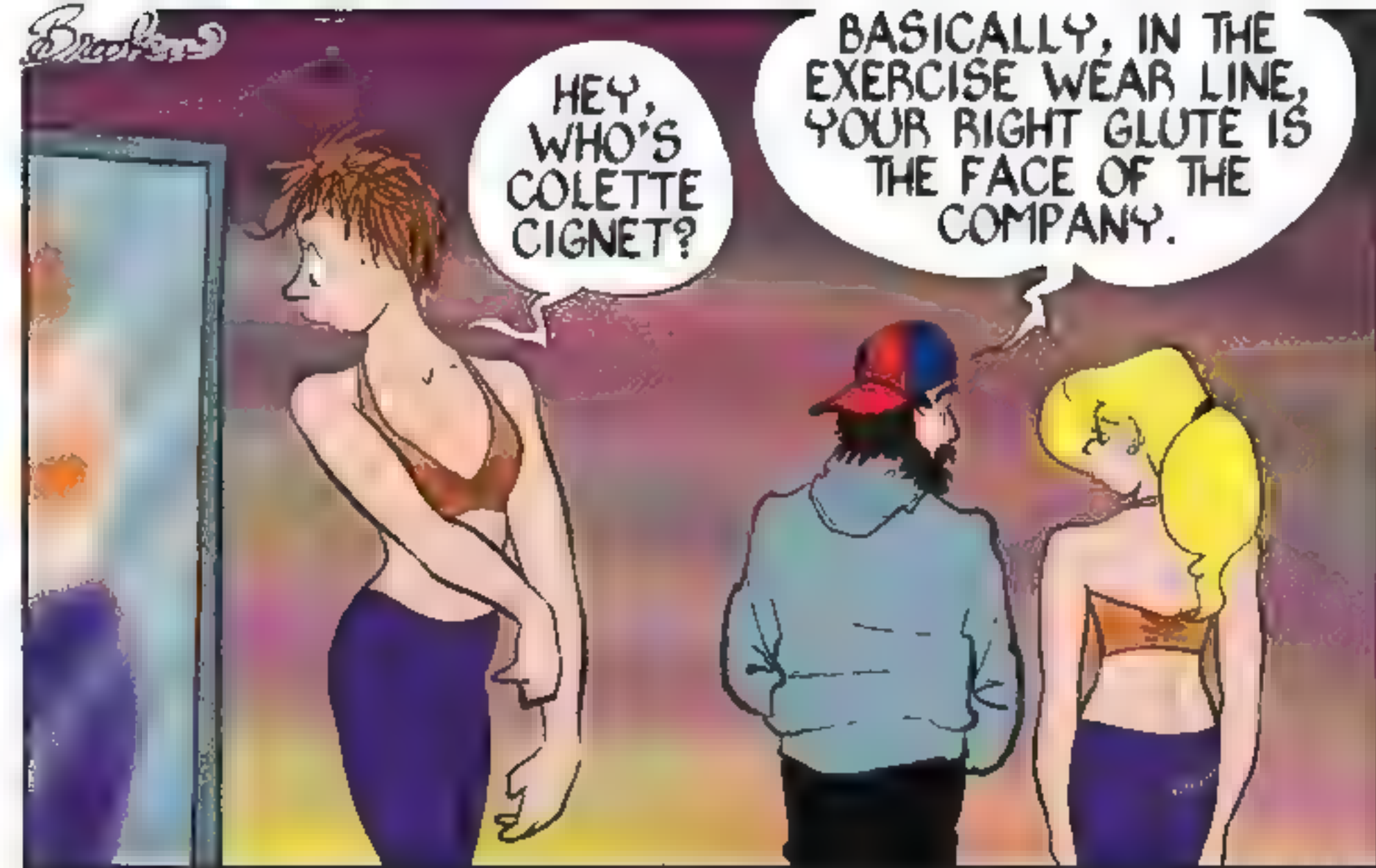


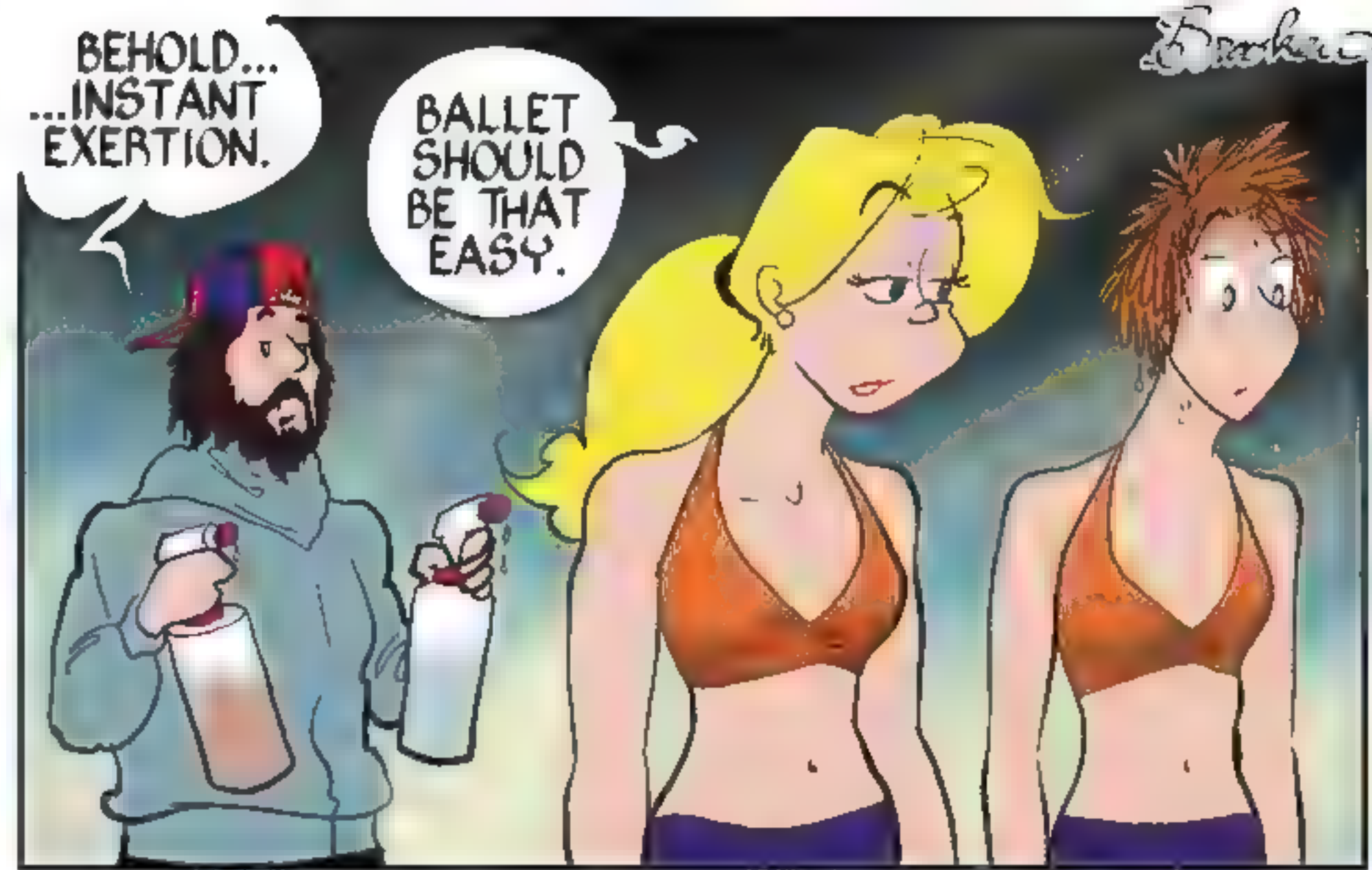
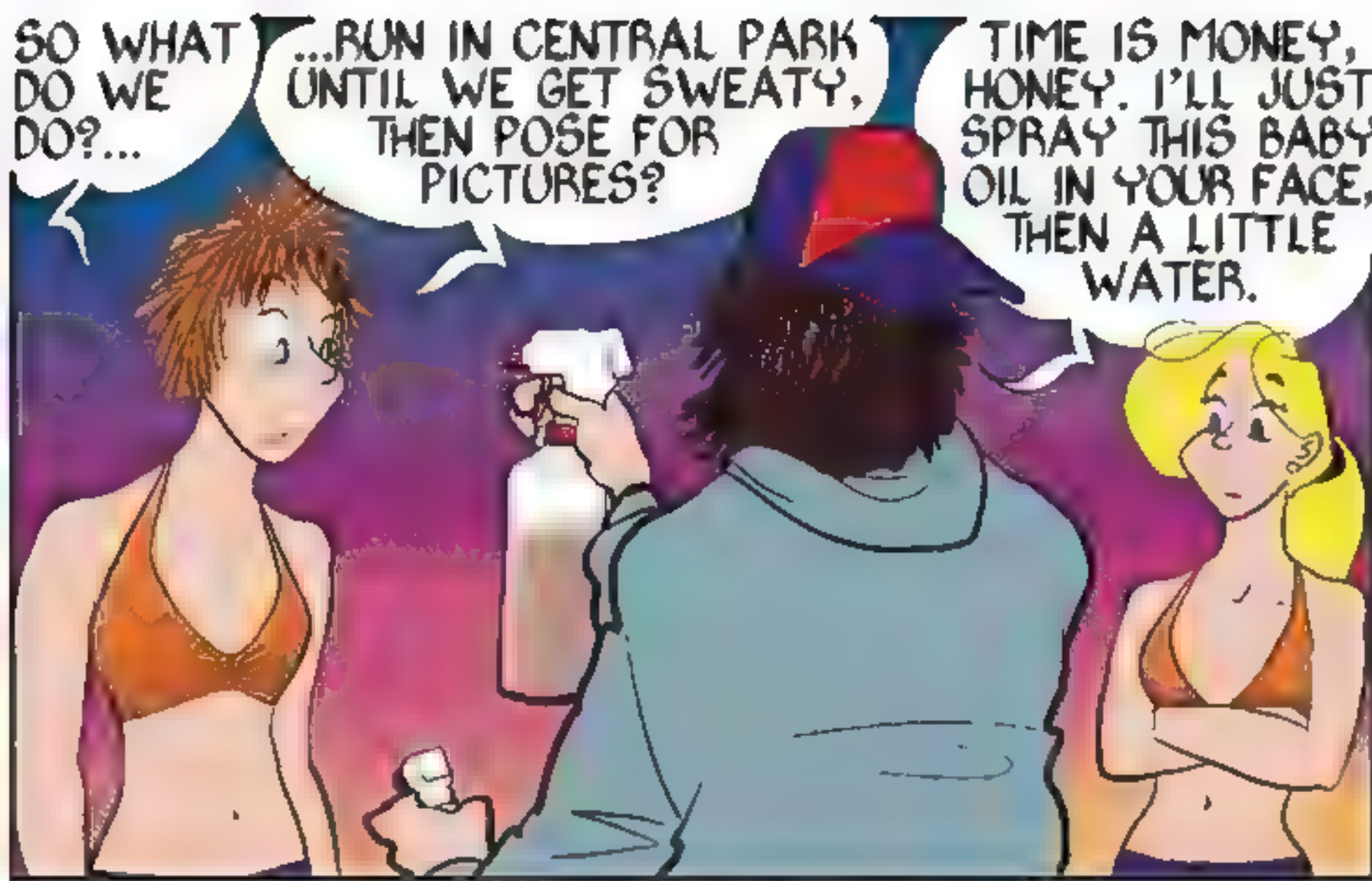
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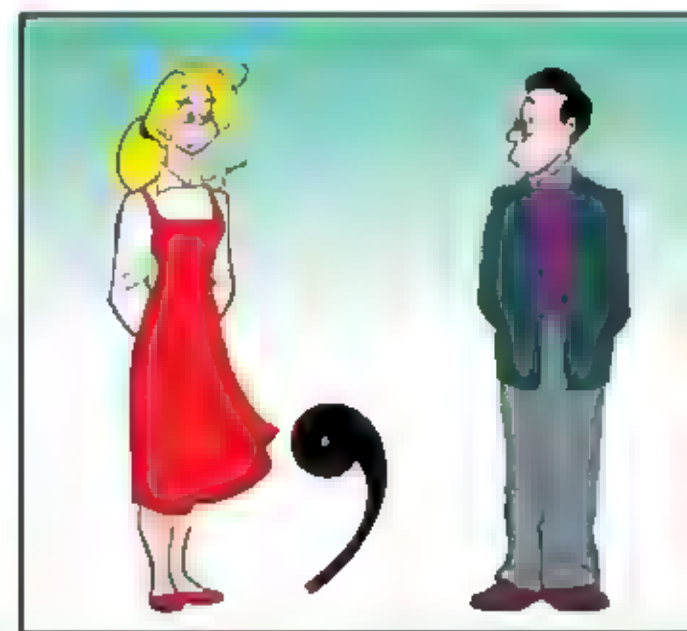
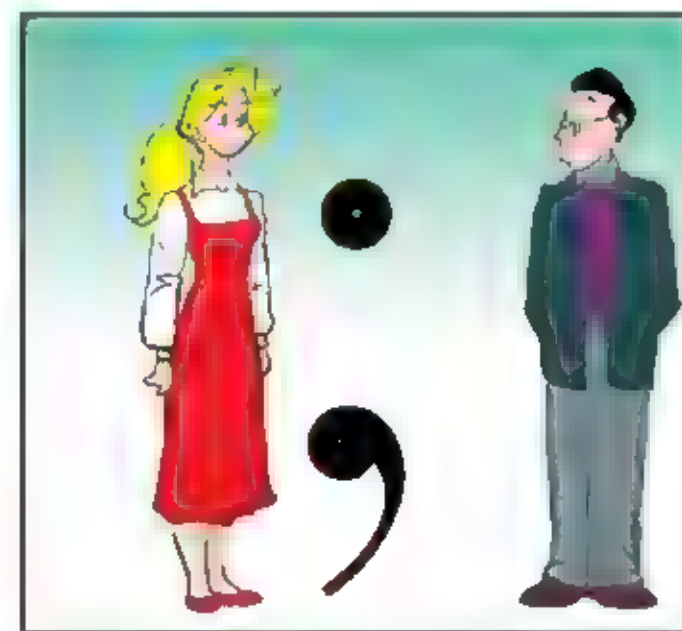
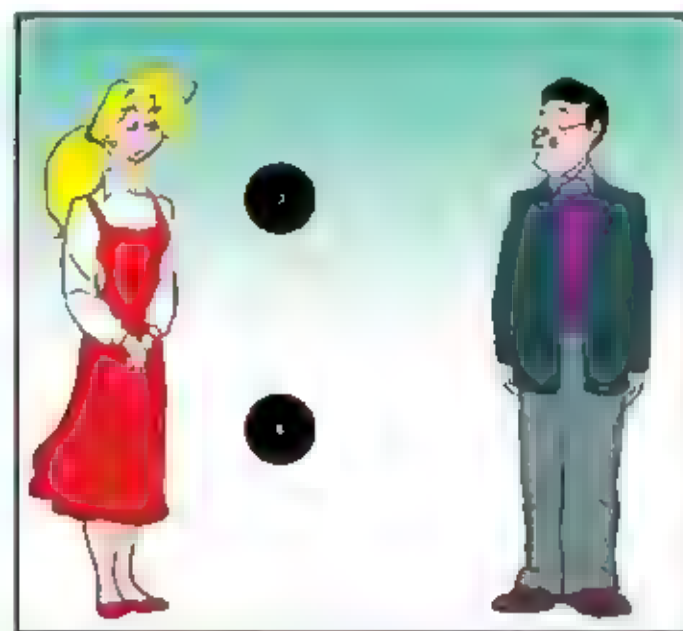
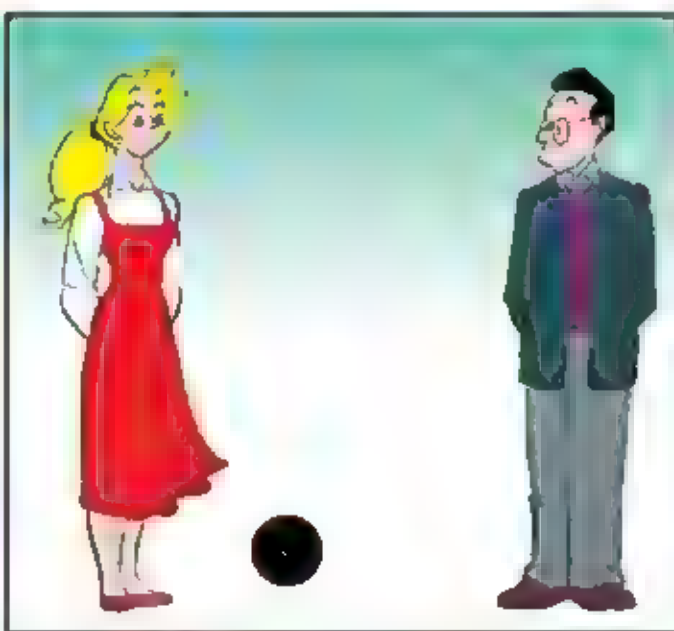












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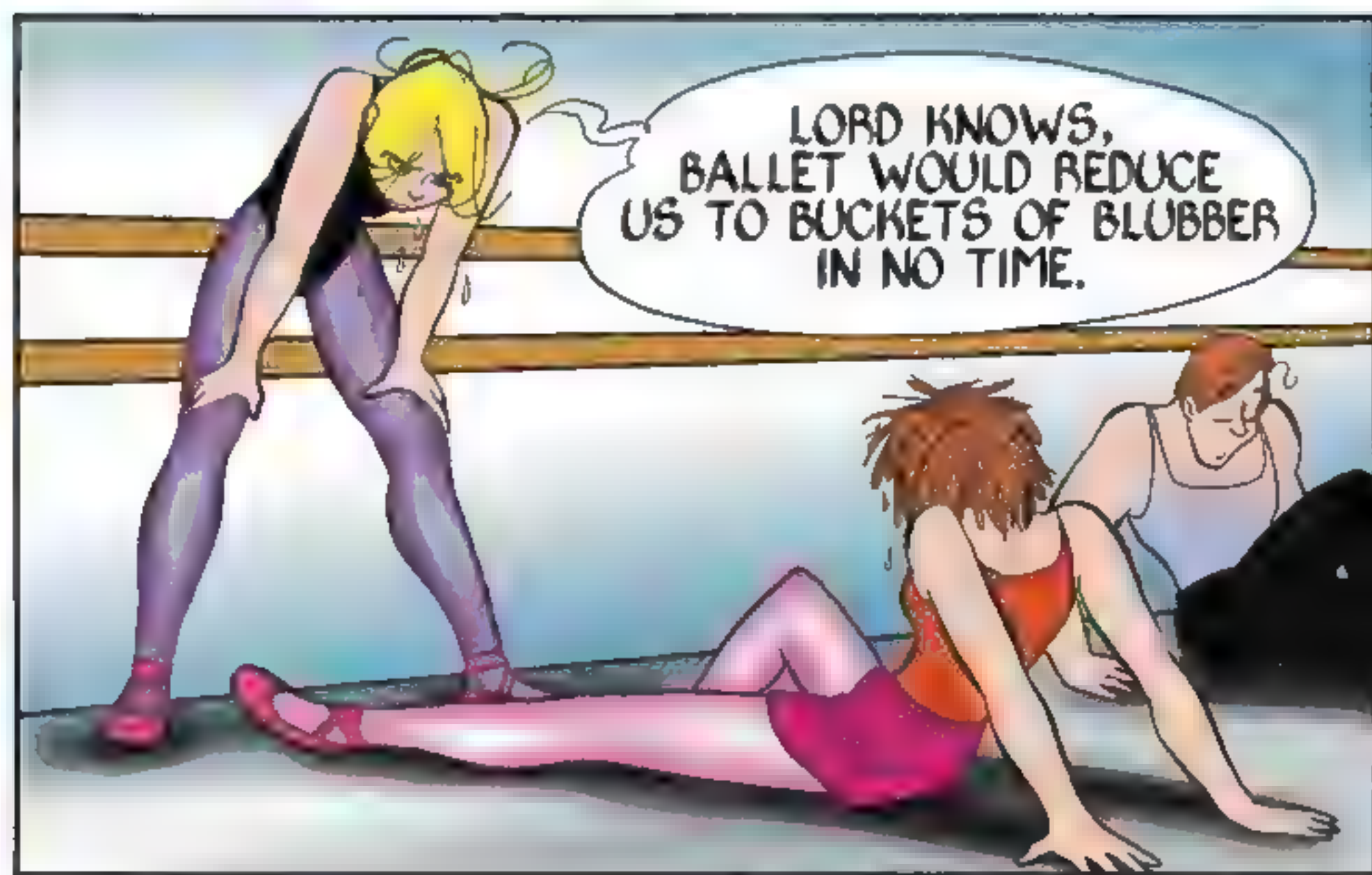


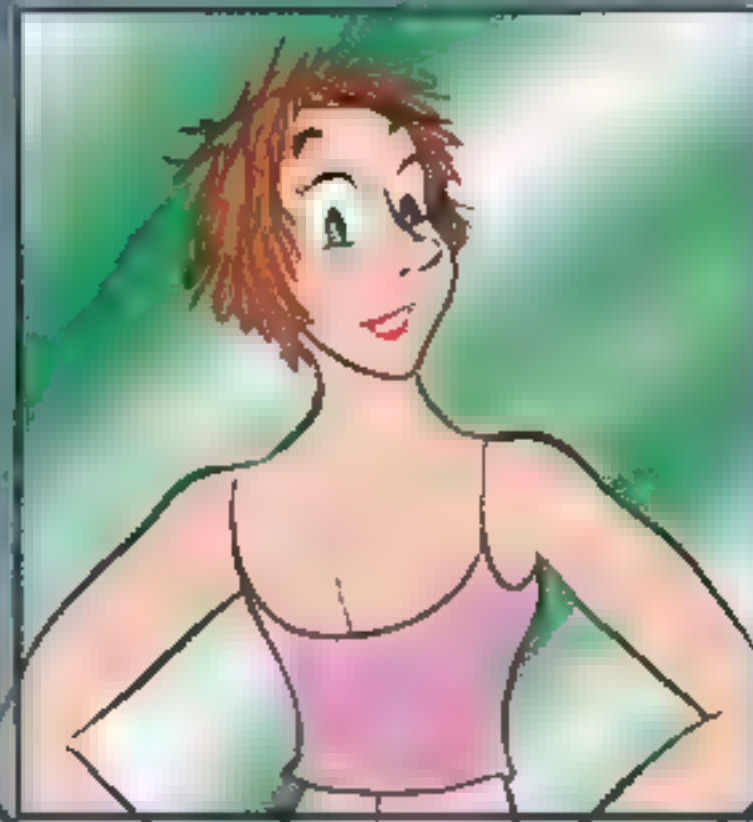
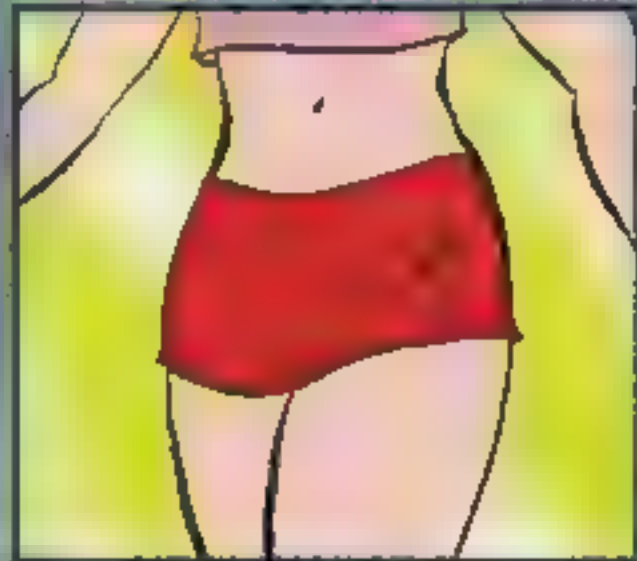
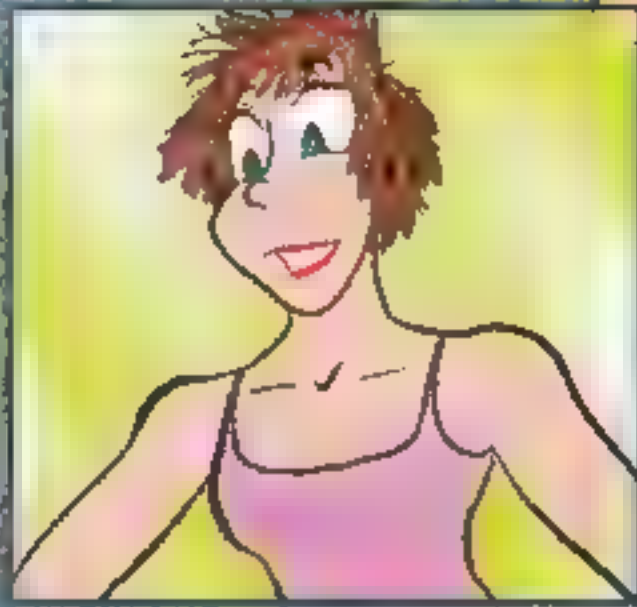
THE IDEA HERE IS THAT NICOLETTE CIGNET
EXERCISE WEAR IS WHAT BALLET CHICKS
WEAR IN THEIR OFF HOURS,
WHEN THEY'RE
TONING UP AND
KEEPING
FIT.



Brooke

LORD KNOWS,
BALLET WOULD REDUCE
US TO BUCKETS OF BLUBBER
IN NO TIME.



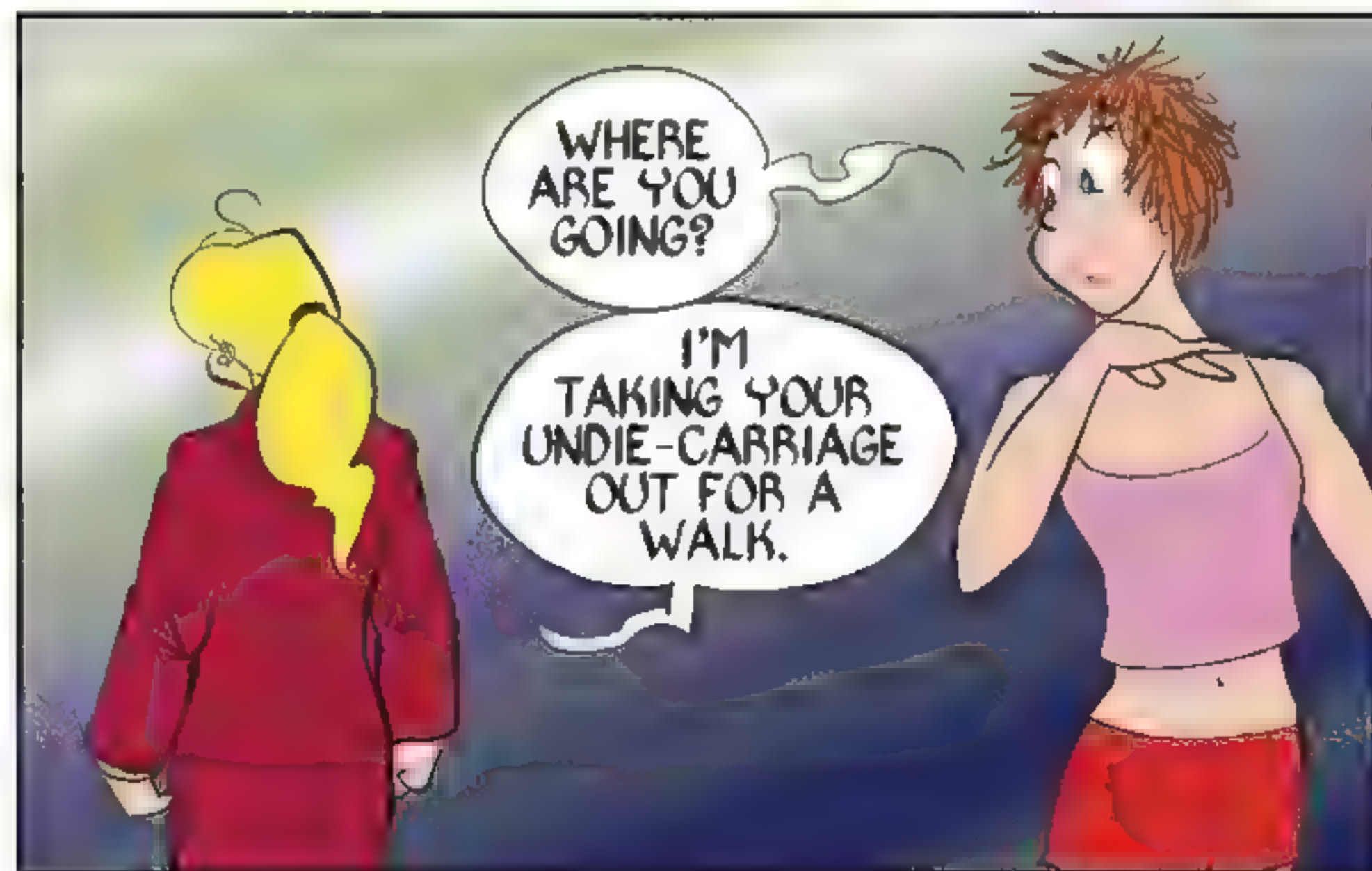


THE THING IS, I DON'T SEE WHY YOU CAN'T JUST USE MY LEGS AND HIPS IN YOUR ADS.



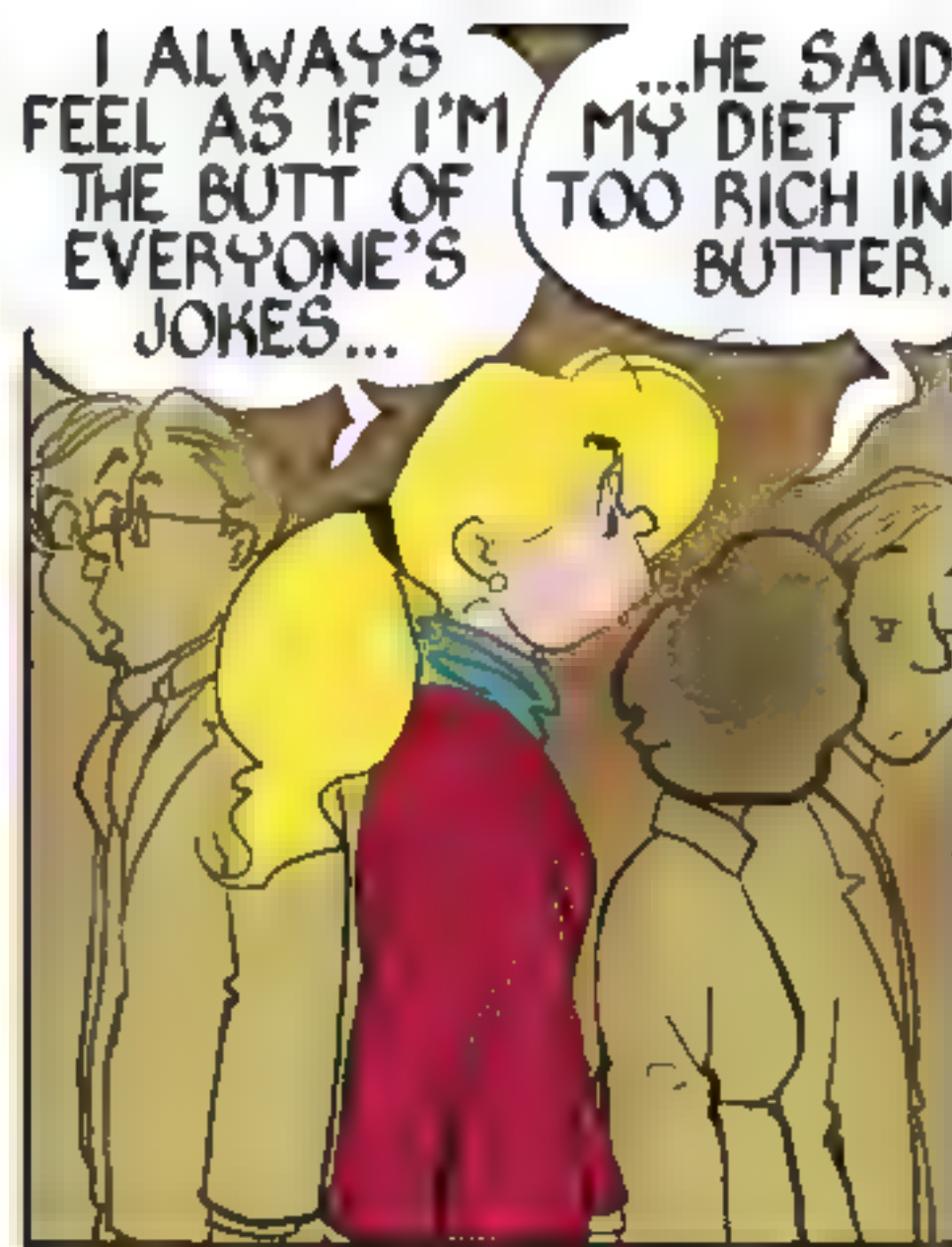
SWEETIE, YOURS IS THE FACE THAT NICOLETTE CIGNET WANTS TO CROWN HER EXERCISE WEAR. ...BUT IT'S EDDA'S GOLDEN HIND THAT WILL SEAL THE DEAL. AS NICOLETTE ALWAYS SAYS ABOUT HER SIGNATURE LINE OF LADIES' LINGERIE, THE SMILE IS AN ASSET, BUT IF YOU WANT PEOPLE LICKING THEIR CHOPS, IT'S ALL IN YOUR "UNDIE-CARRIAGE."

Brandon

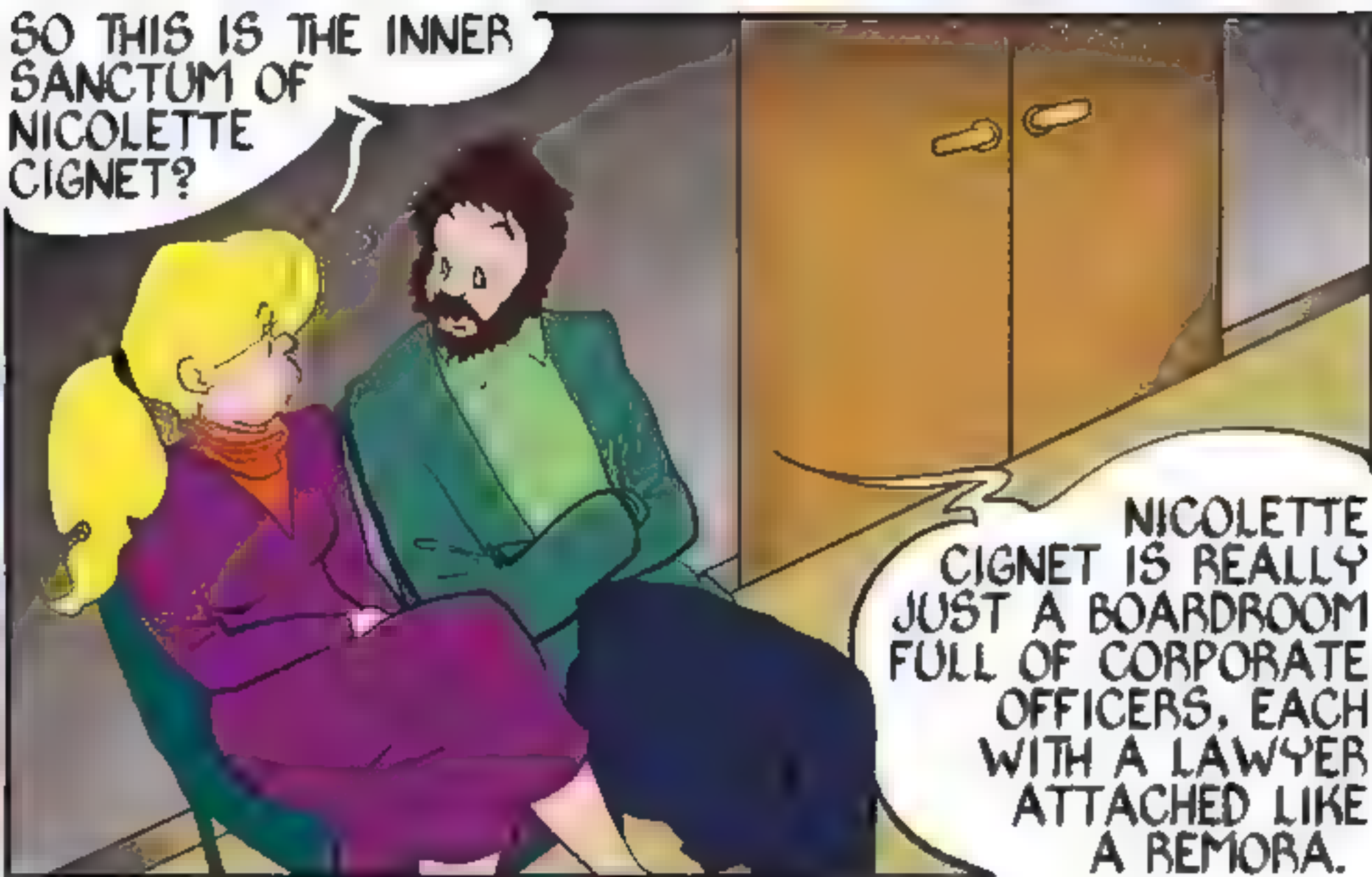


WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I'M TAKING YOUR UNDIE-CARRIAGE OUT FOR A WALK.



SO THIS IS THE INNER
SANCTUM OF
NICOLETTE
CIGNET?



NICOLETTE
CIGNET IS REALLY
JUST A BOARDROOM
FULL OF CORPORATE
OFFICERS, EACH
WITH A LAWYER
ATTACHED LIKE
A REMORA.

WELL,
WHY DID
THEY ASK
TO SEE ME?
AND WHY
ARE THEY
DRAWING A
PENTAGRAM
ON THE
FLOOR?



...no
reason.

Beckus

SO HOW WAS
YOUR MEETING
WITH NICOLETTE
CIGNET
TODAY?

Crocker

"THEY"?

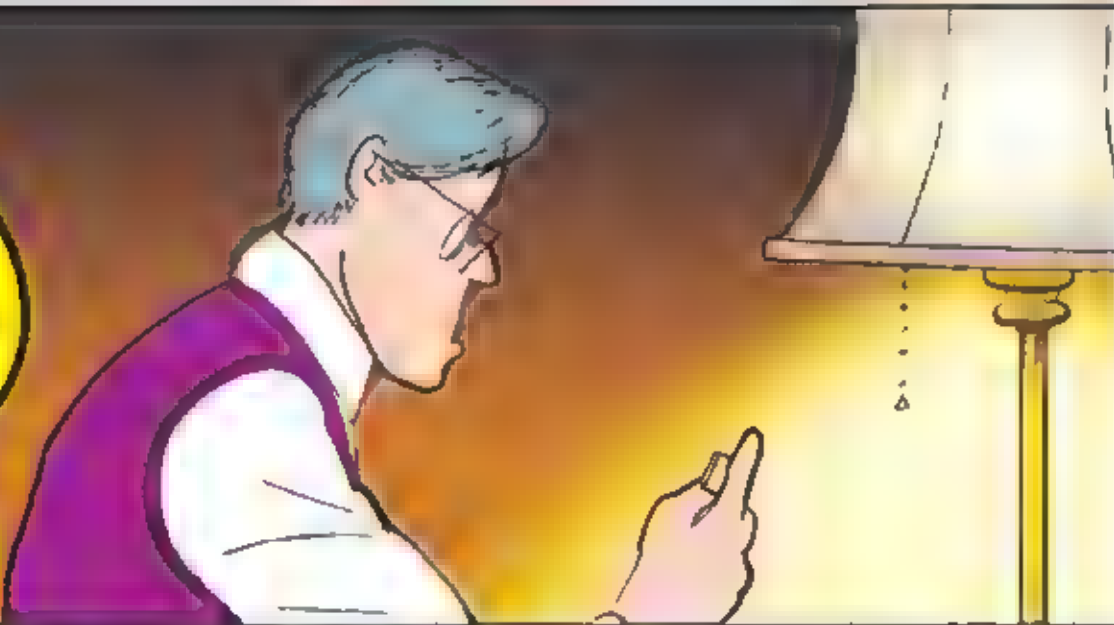
THEY
JUST
WANTED TO
DISCUSS A
CONTRACT.

WELL, THERE IS NO ACTUAL
NICOLETTE CIGNET. SHE'S
JUST A CORPORATE IMAGE,
LIKE BETTY CROCKER...
...BUT IN A THONG BIKINI
WITH MATCHING
LIFT-AND-SEPARATE BRA.

Betty...
Crocker?!

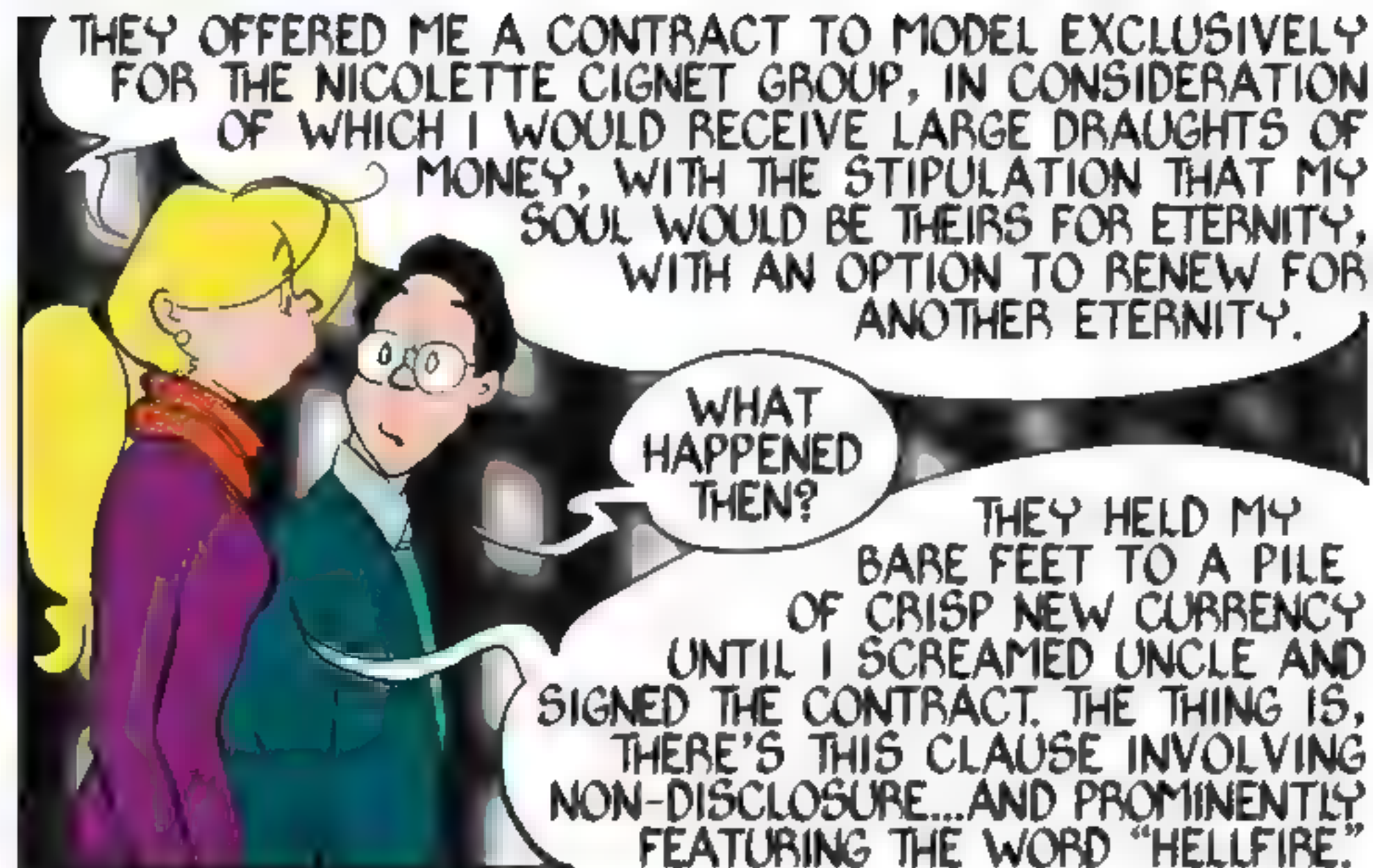
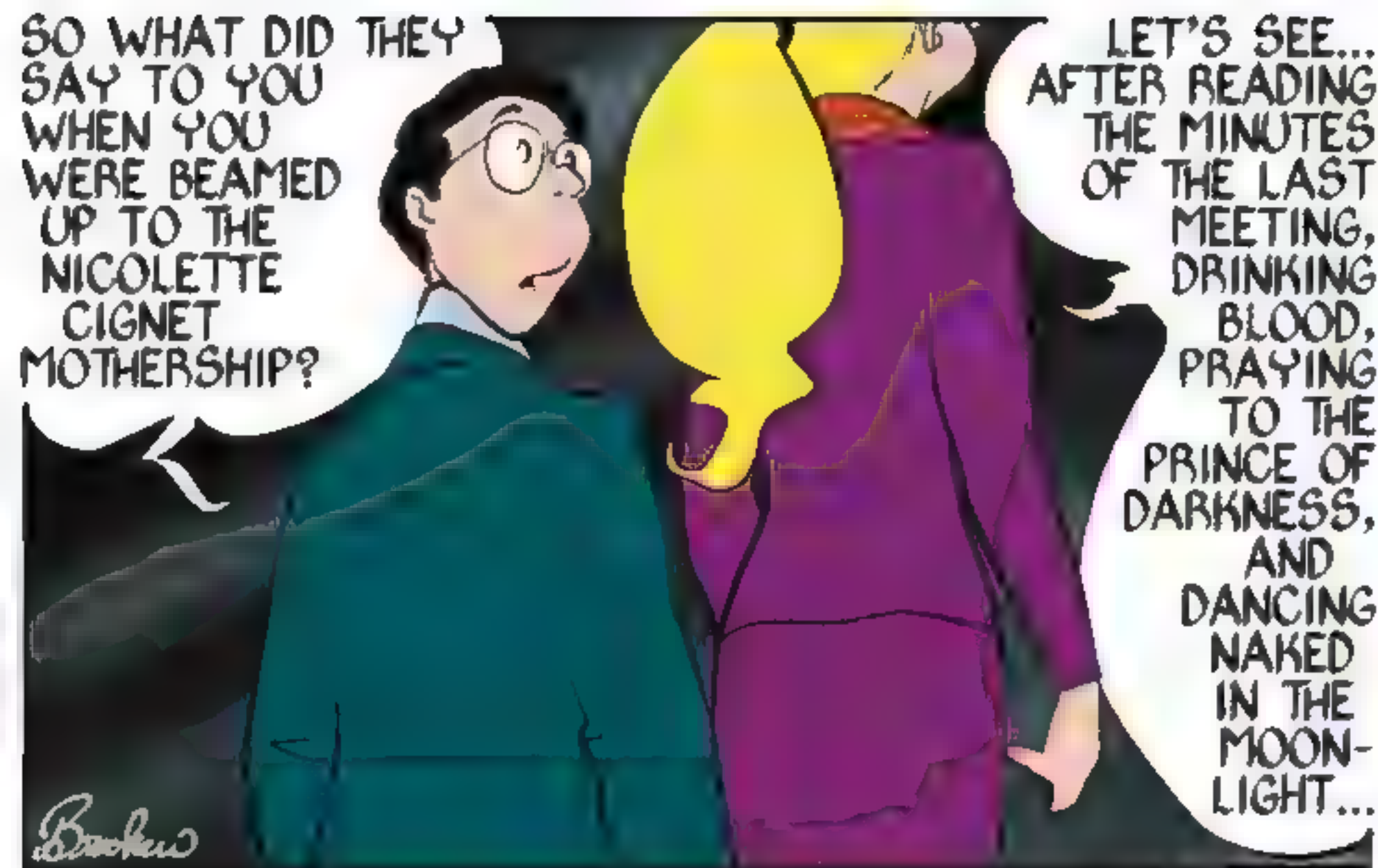
FIRST SANTA CLAUS...
...NOW THIS!?

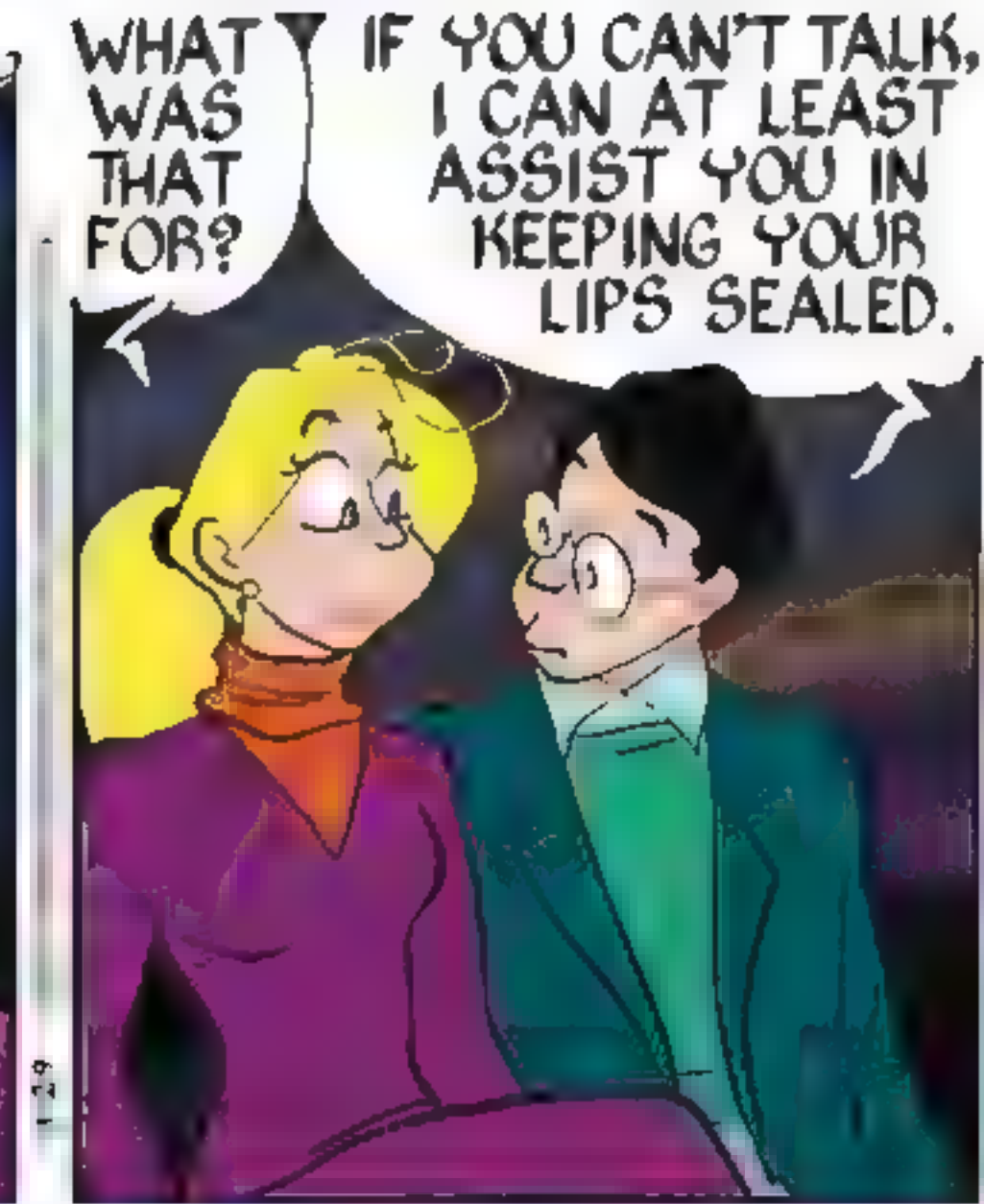
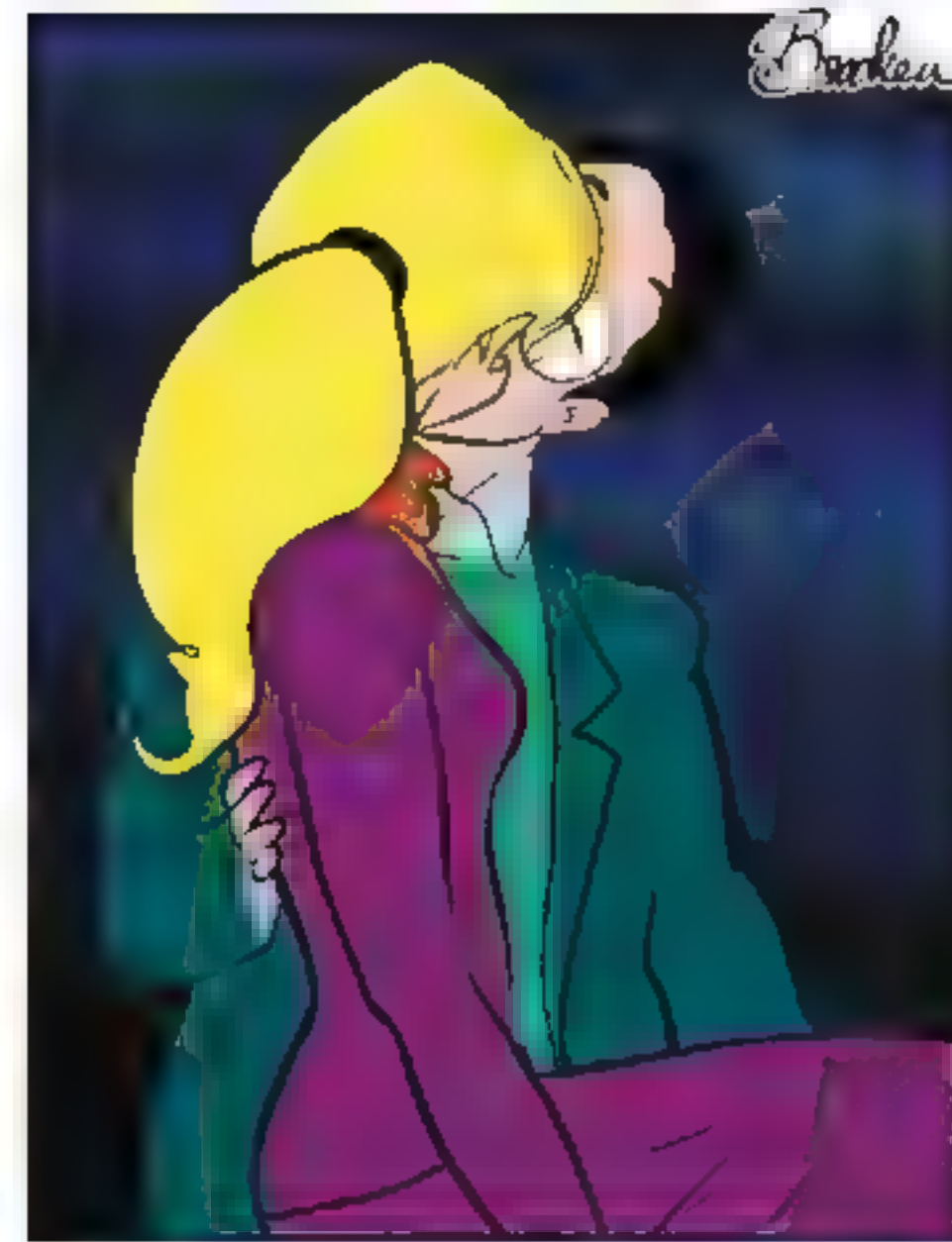
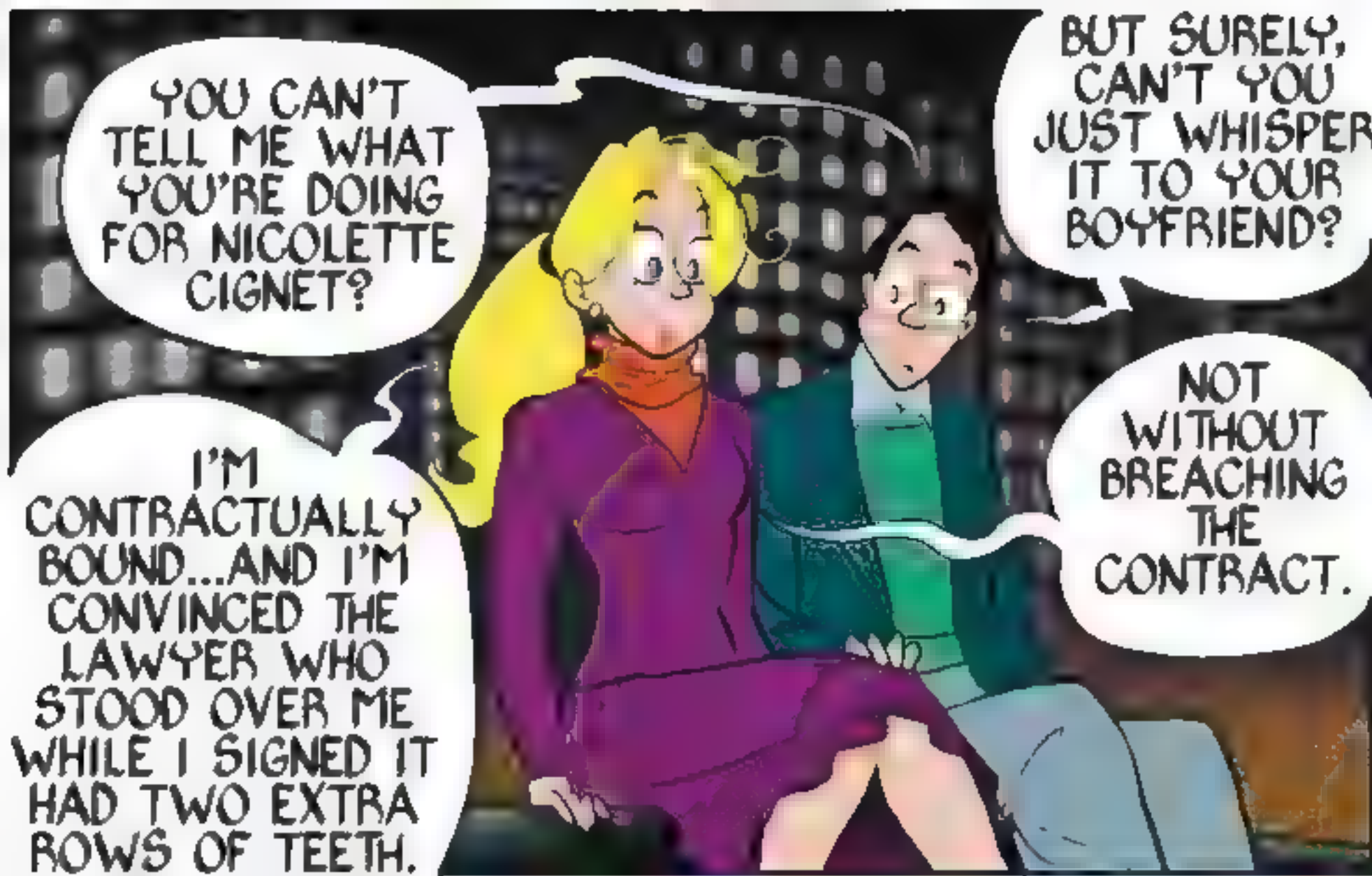
Lift
and
what?

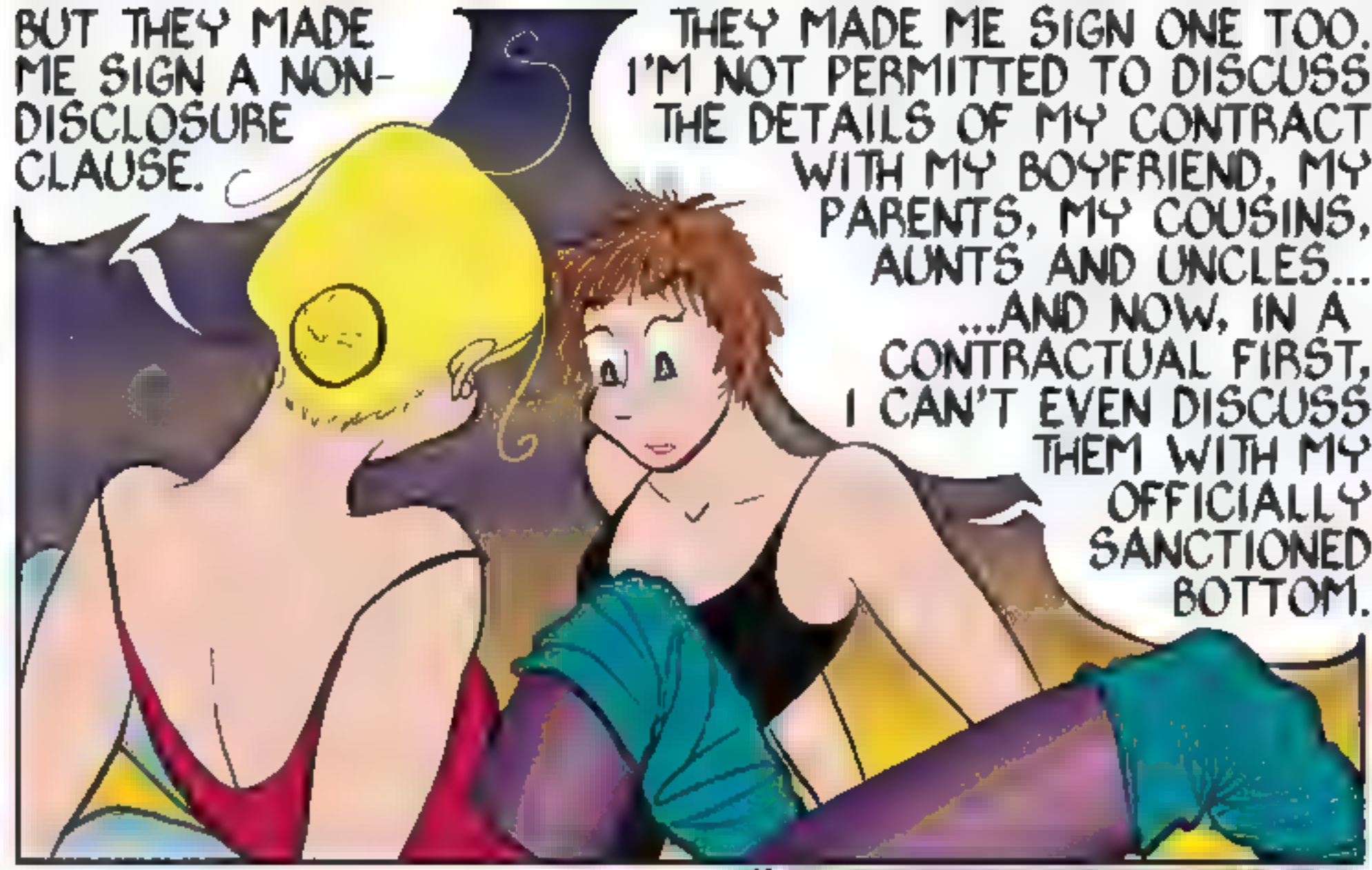
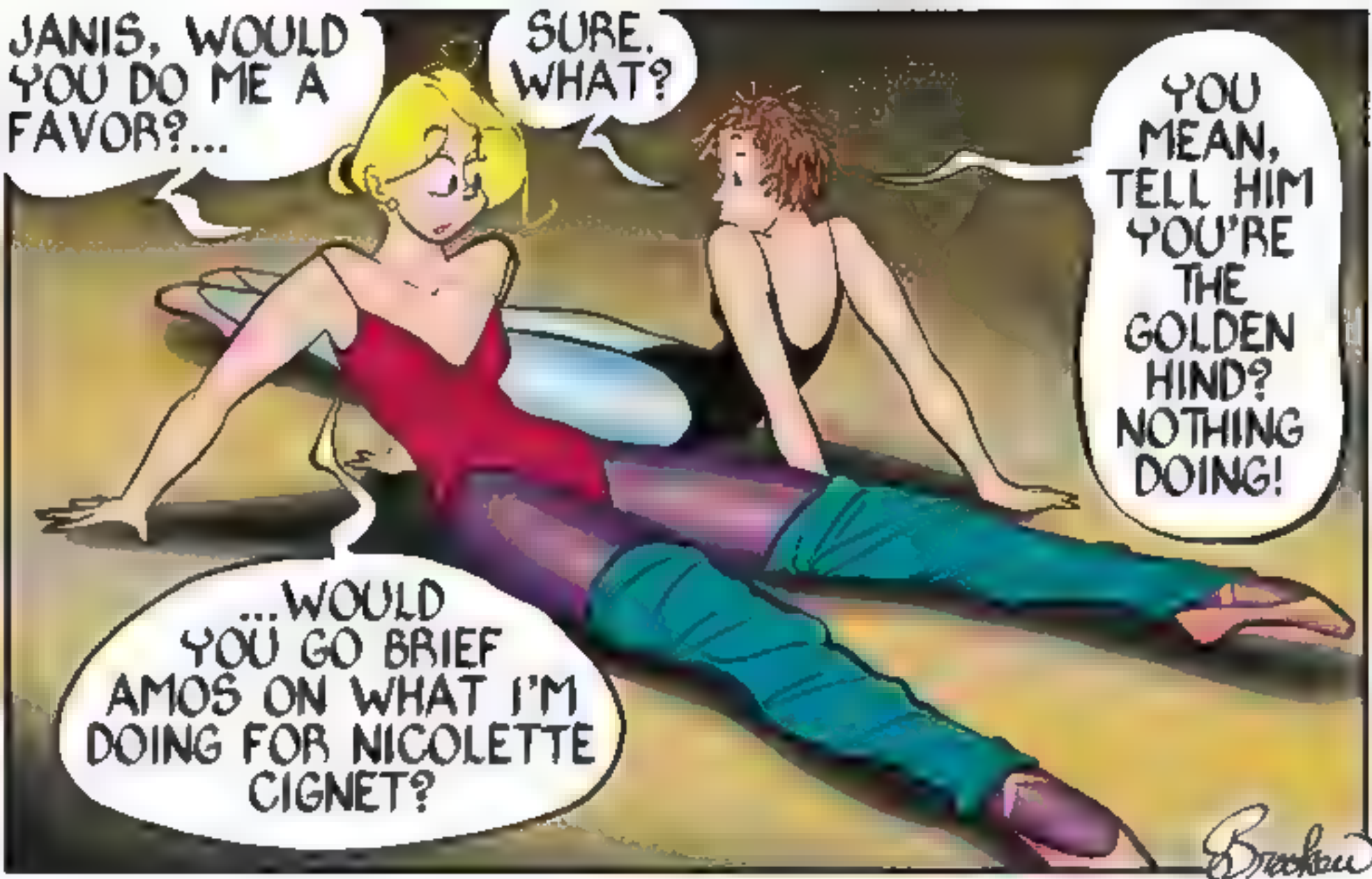


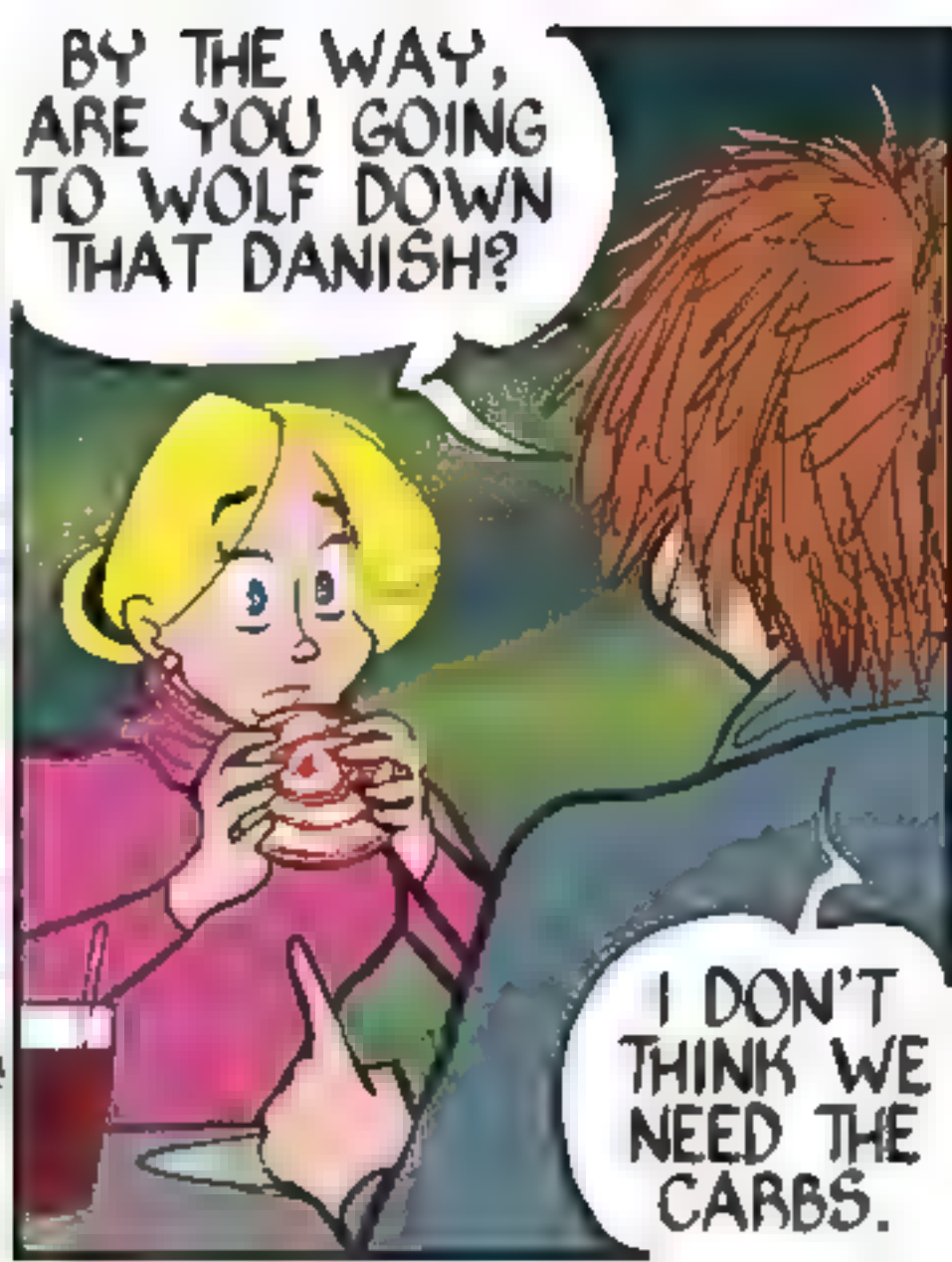
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YOU SIGNED A CONTRACT
AND YOU CAN'T DISCUSS
IT WITH ANYBODY?
YOU?...YOU HAVE
TO KEEP A
SECRET???

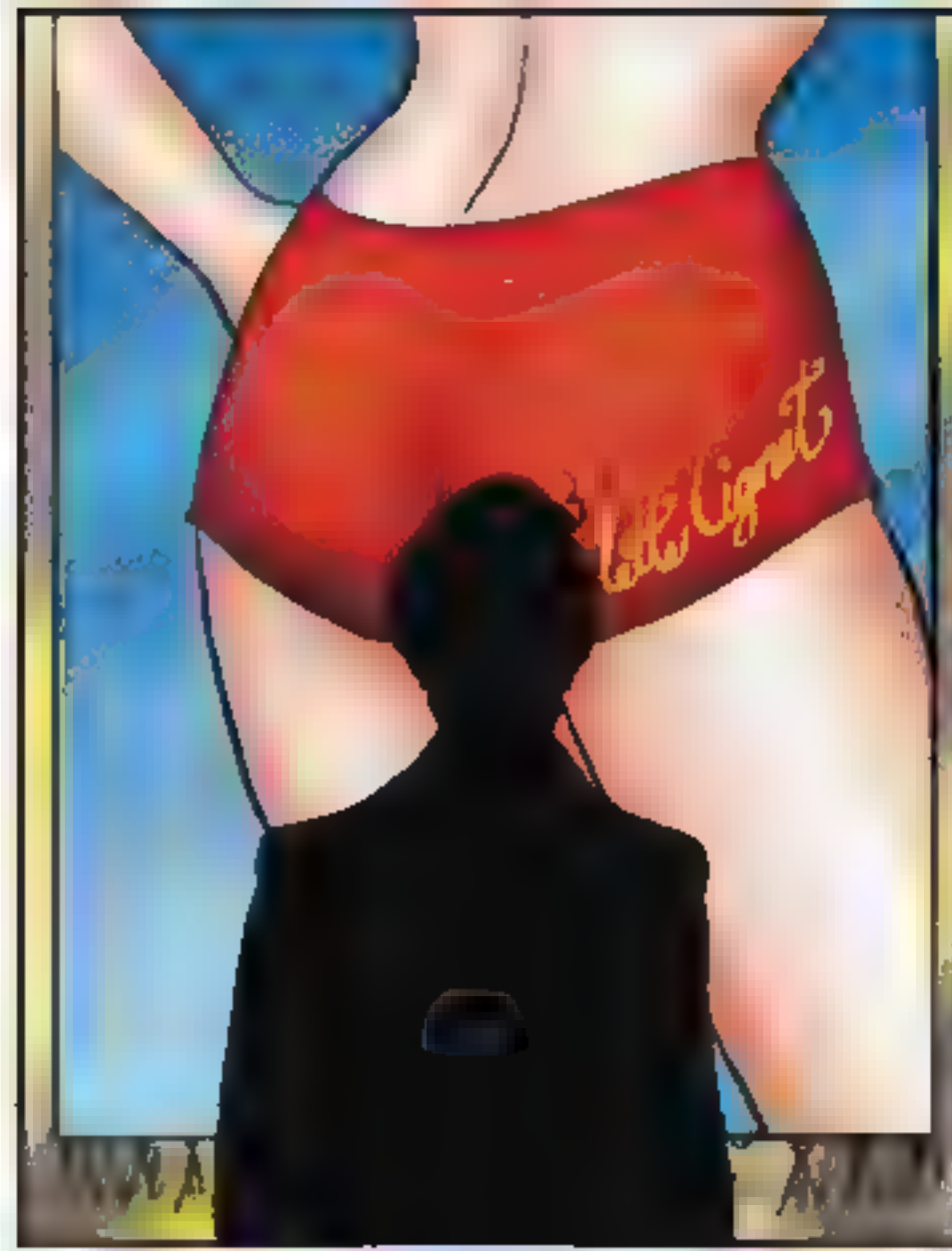
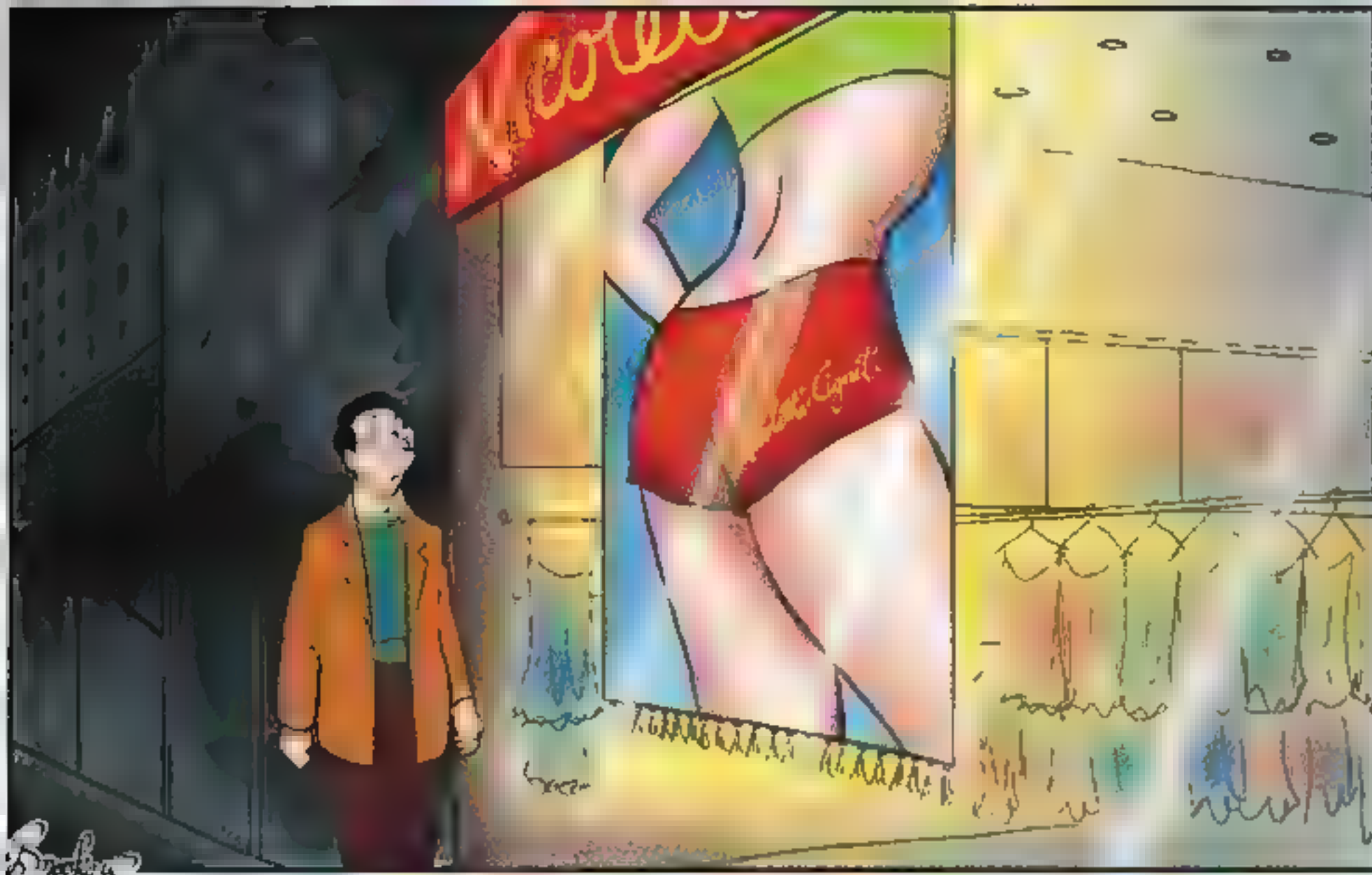
THIS HAS
TO BE DIVINE
RETRIBUTION.

12-2 ©2011 by Universal Studios for UFS Inc.

PERHAPS IF I GUESS AT IT...
...COULD YOU TELL ME THEN?
MAYBE TAP THE SIDE OF
YOUR NOSE, OR WINK?

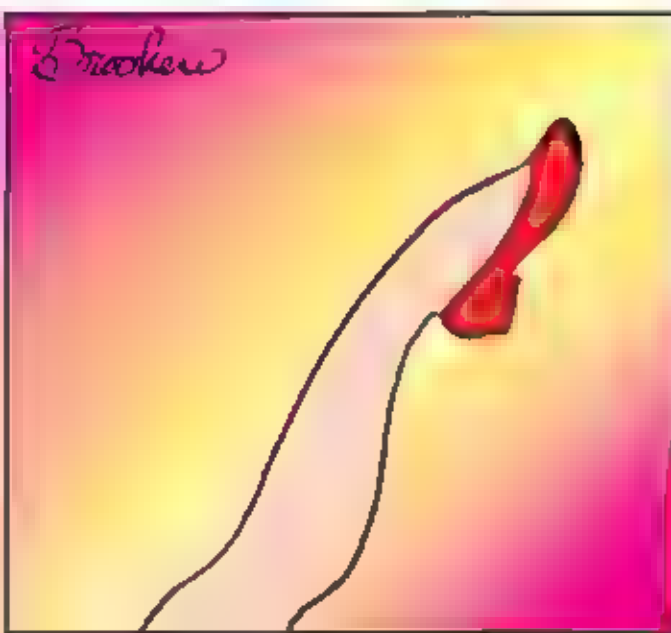
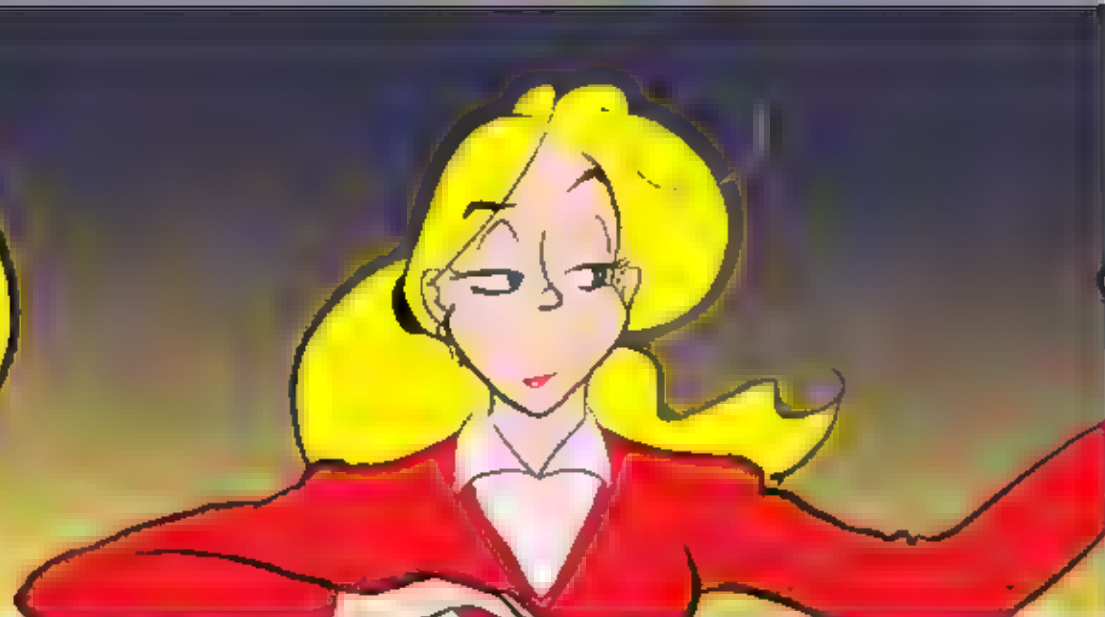
ONE WAY OR
THE OTHER I'LL
GET TO THE
BOTTOM OF IT.

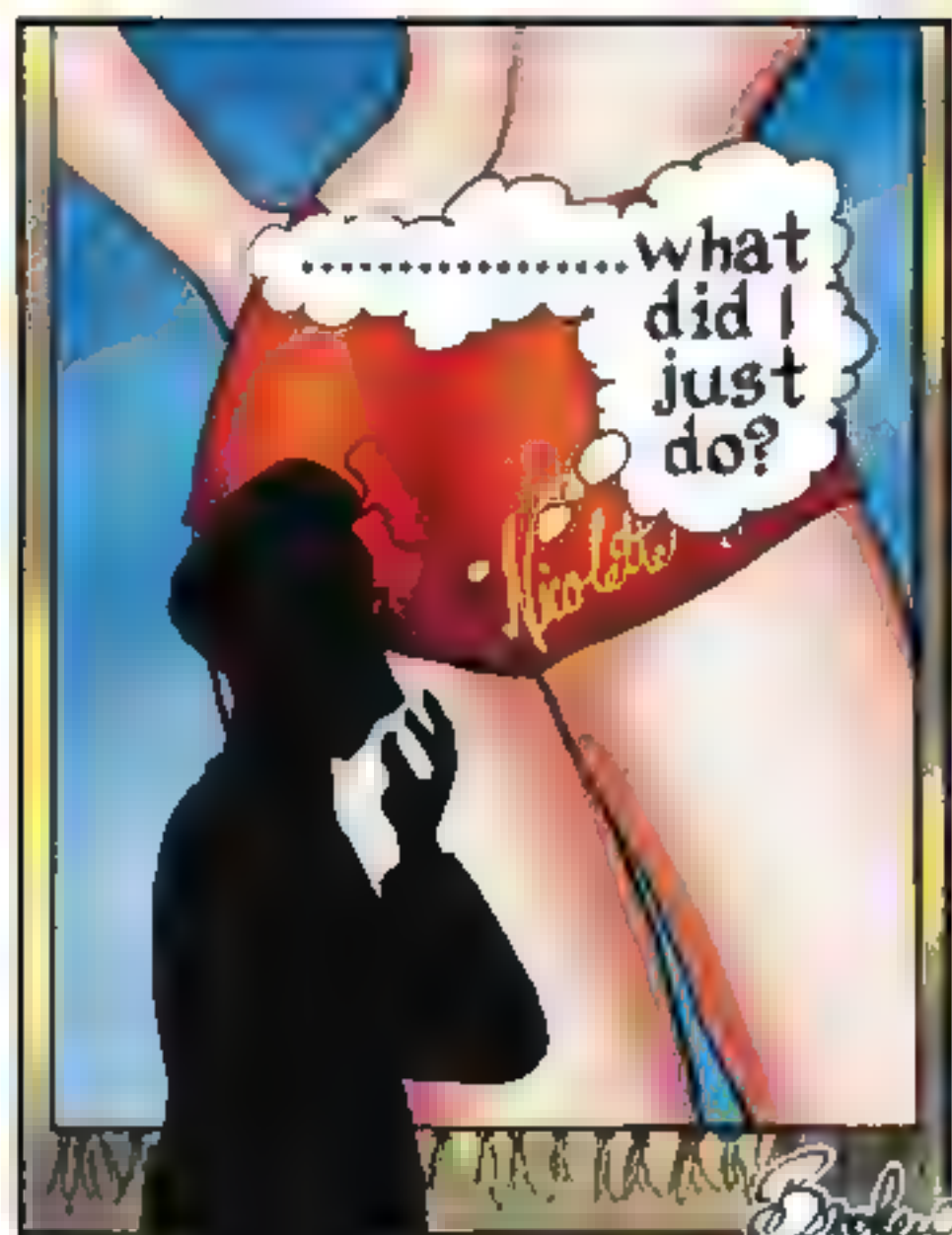
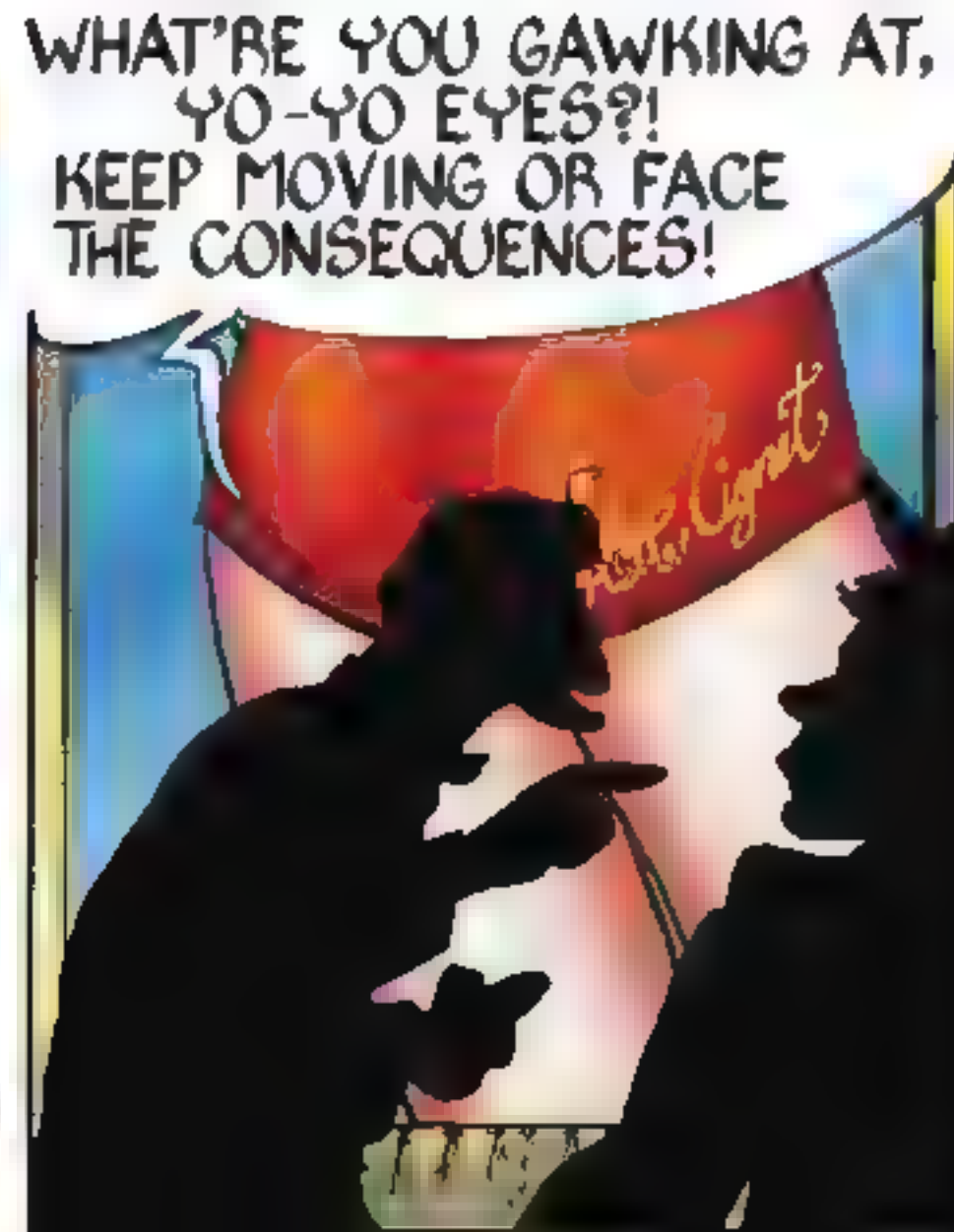
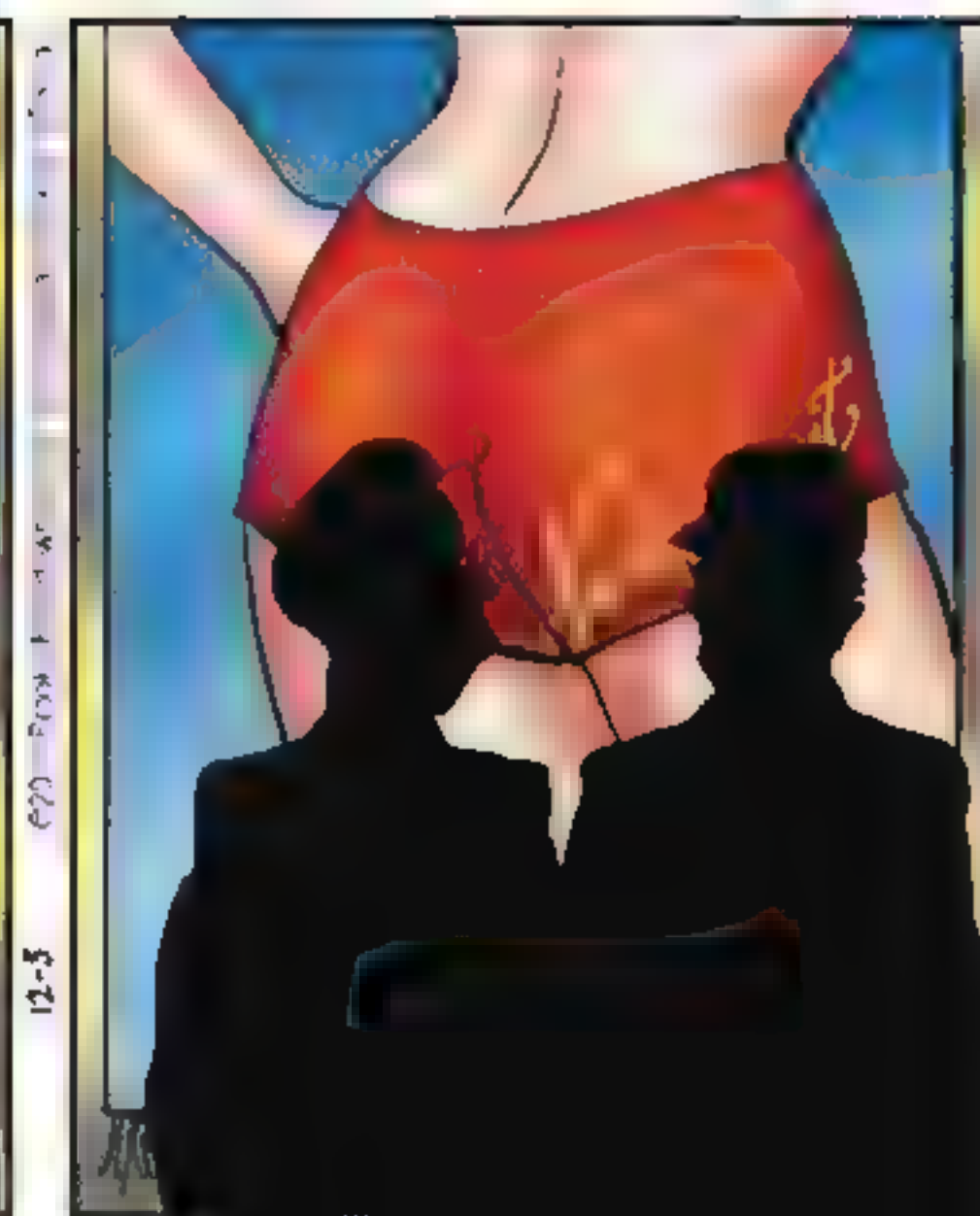
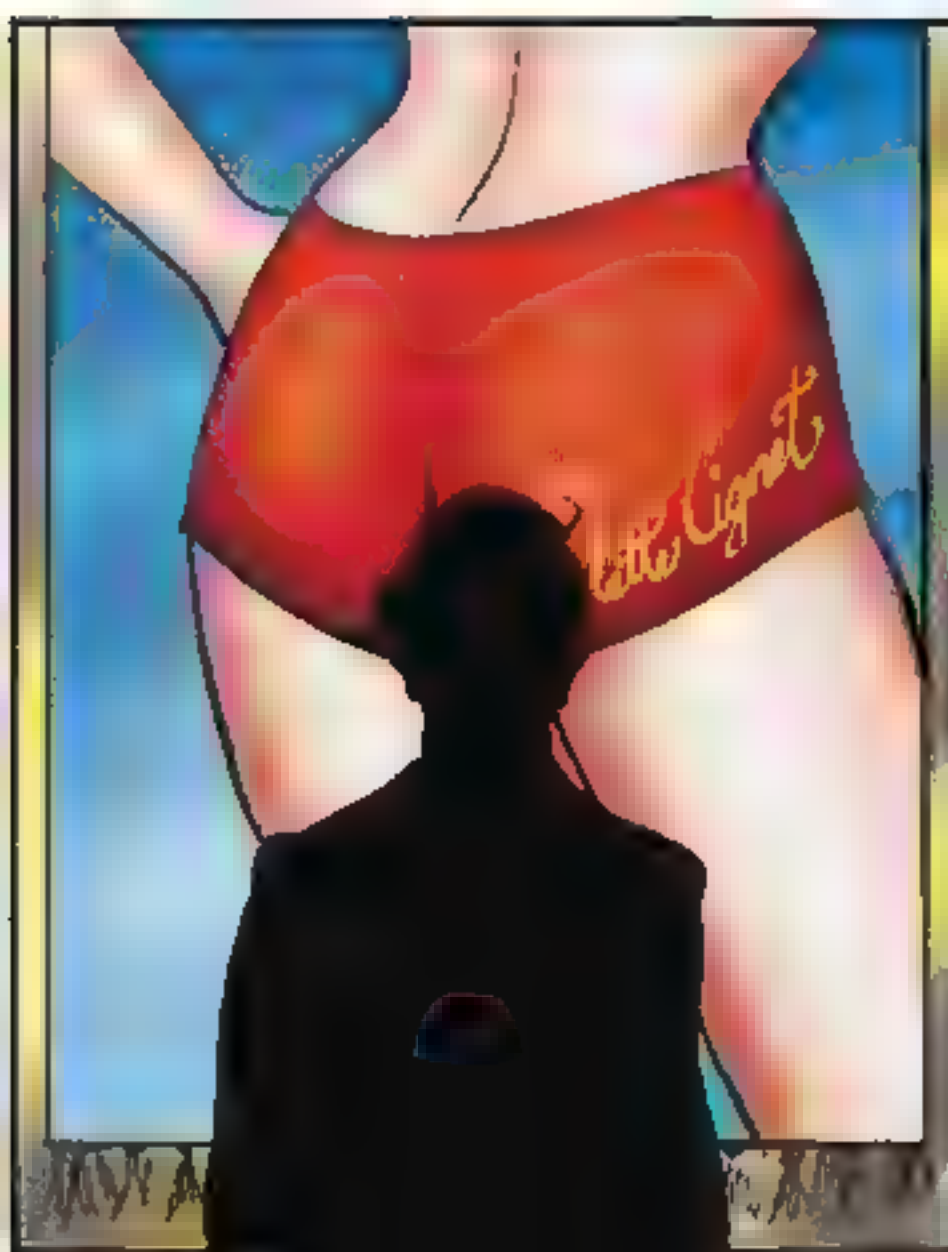
What...?

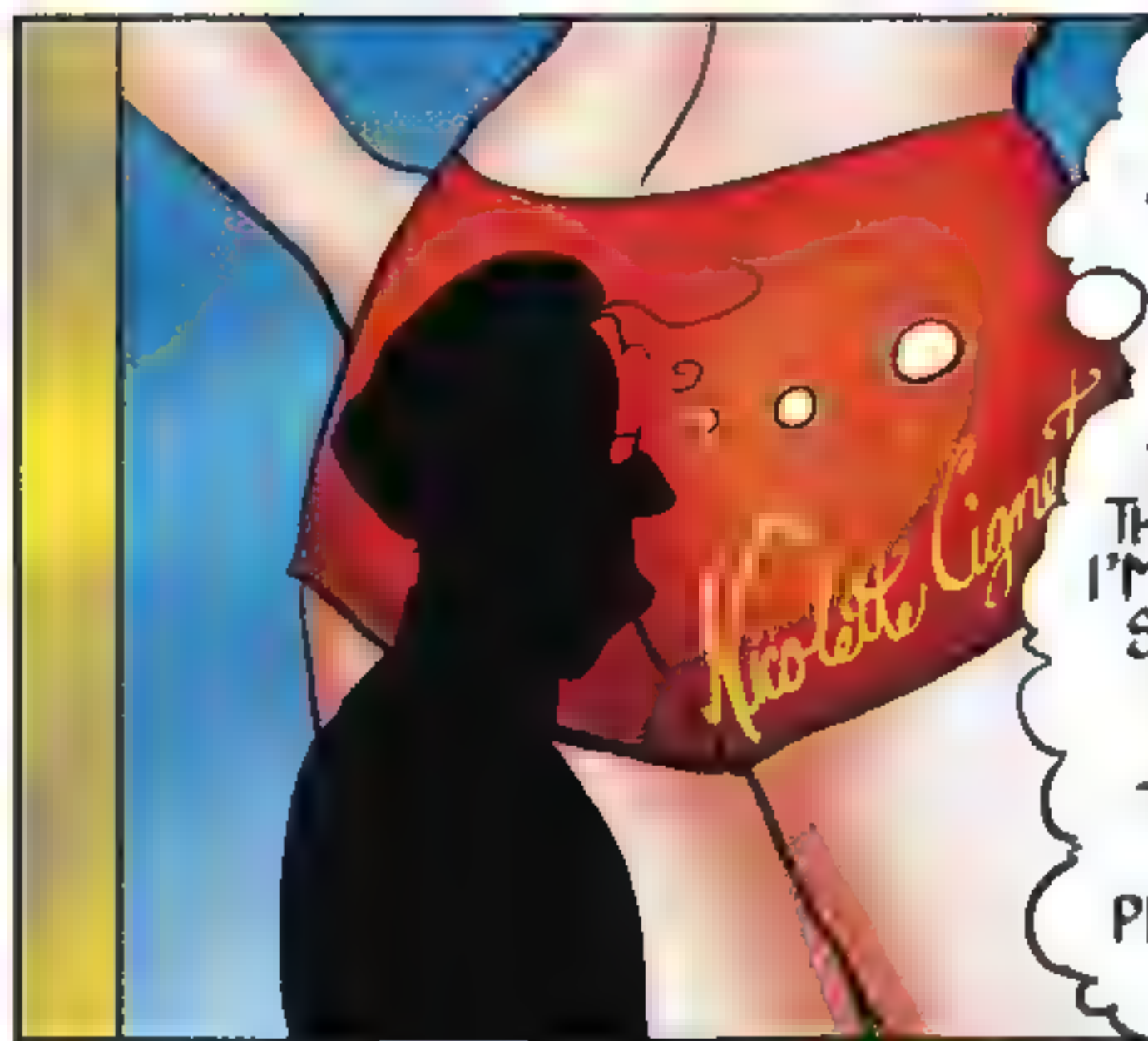


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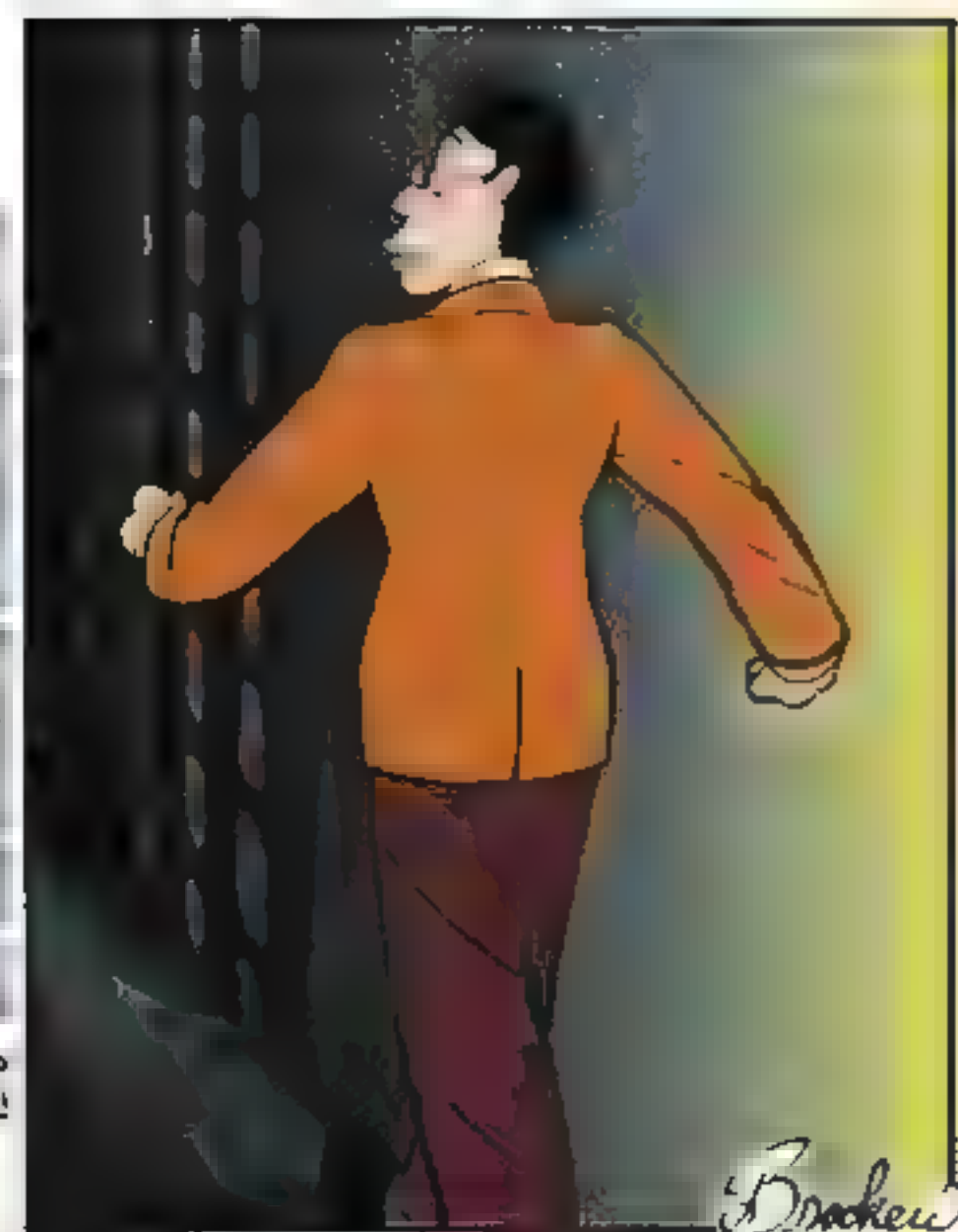


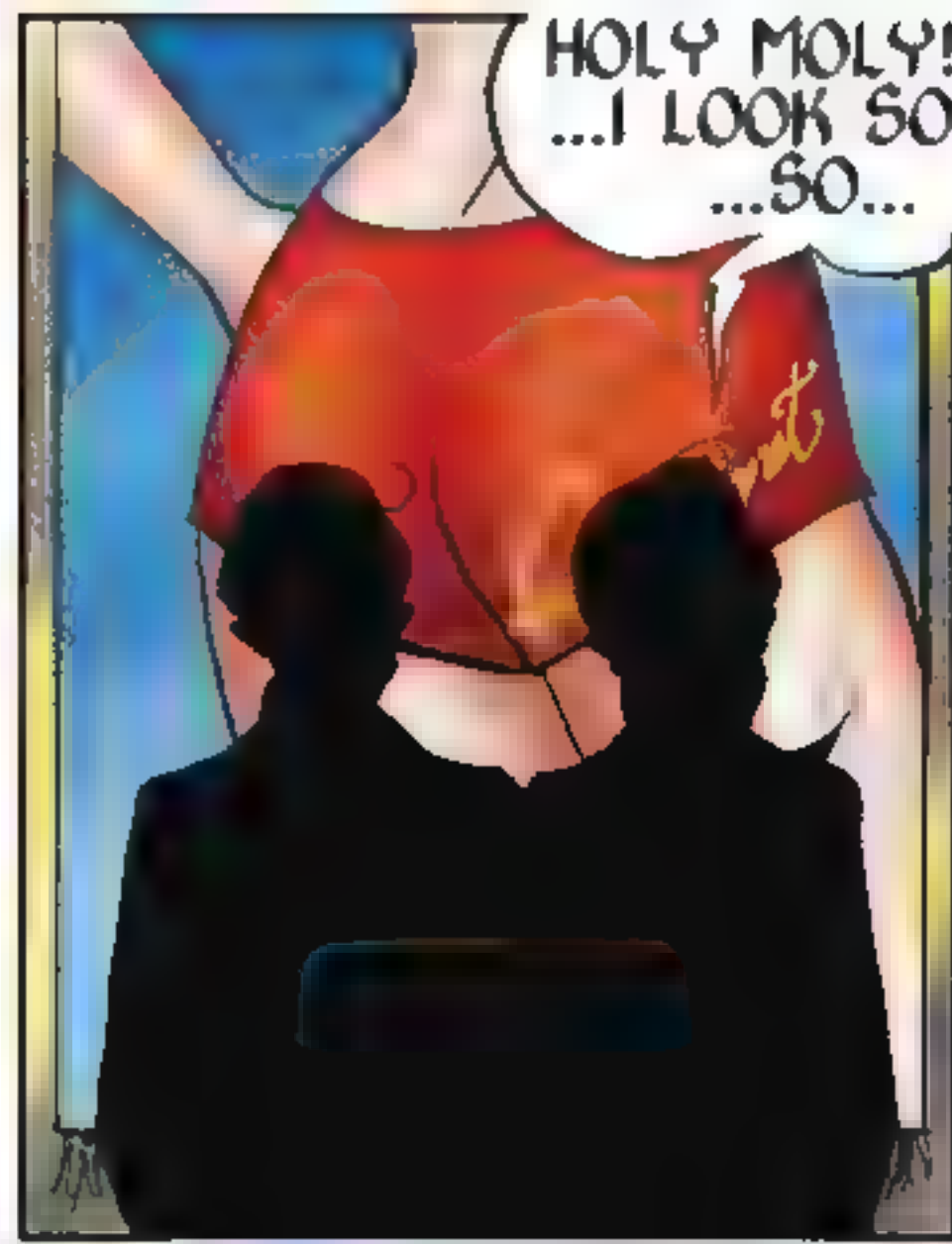


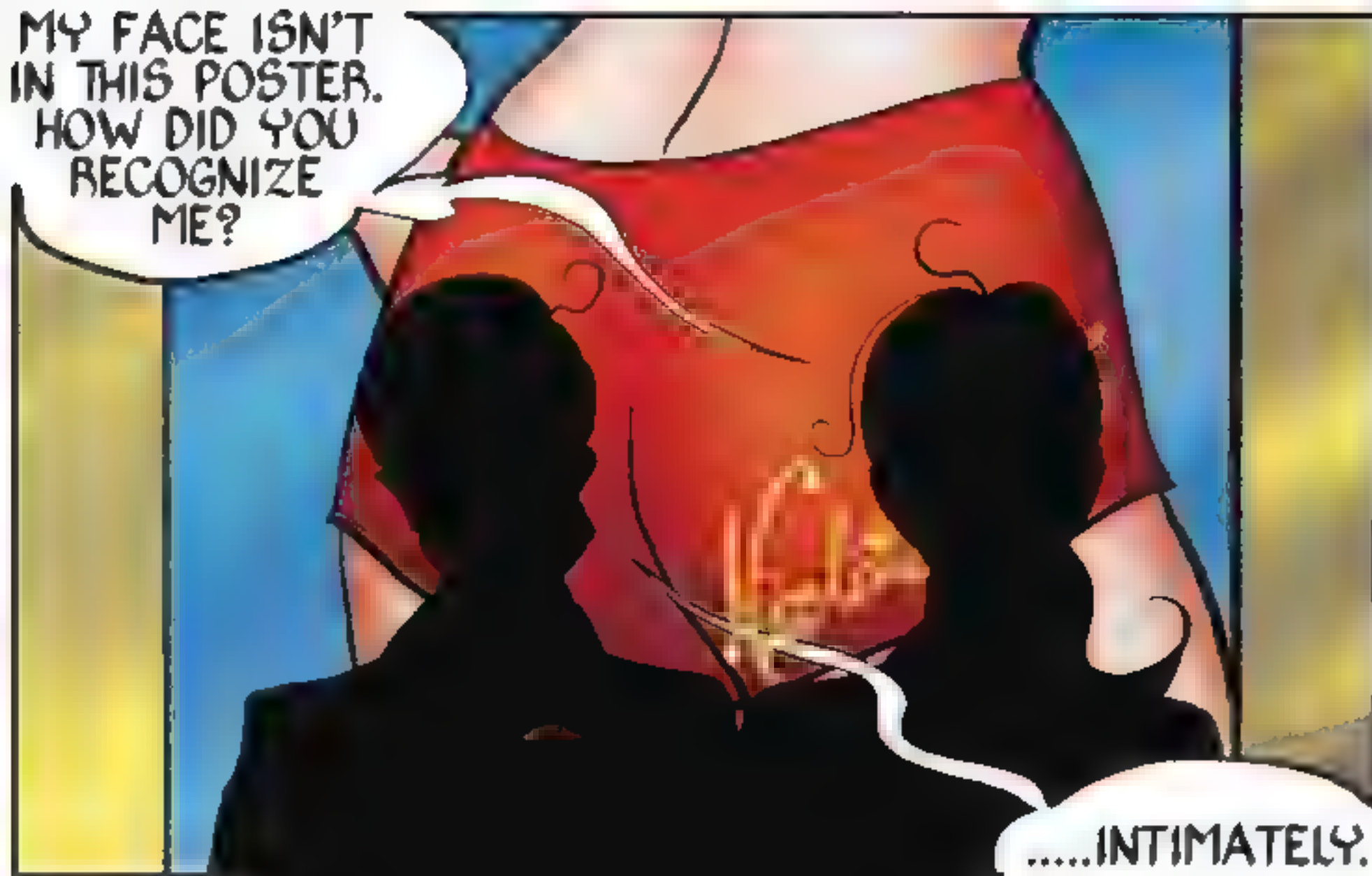




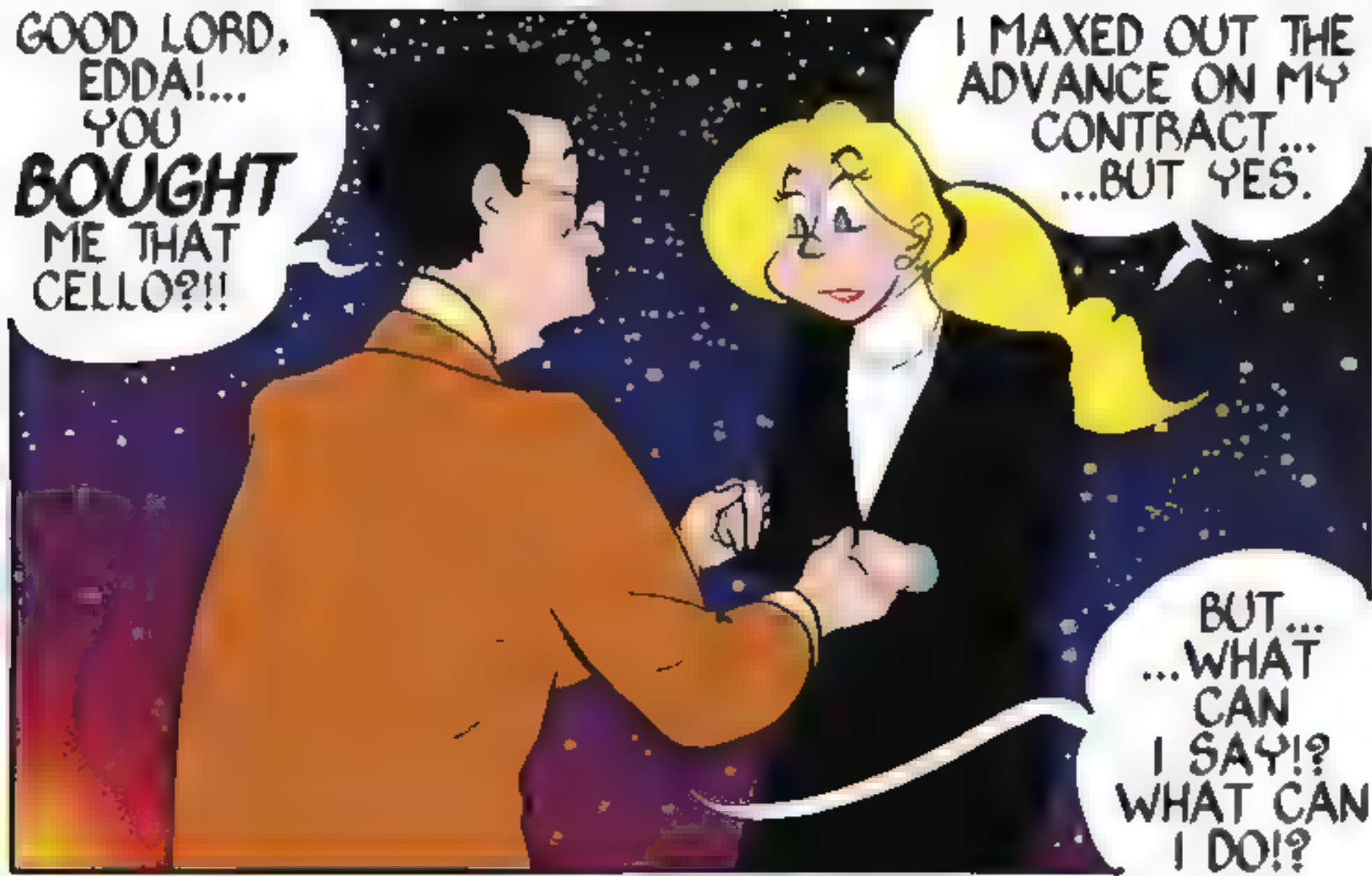
GOOD LORD!
I JUST YELLED
AT A GUY, AND
THREATENED
VIOLENCE,
FOR OGLING
A POSTER OF
MY GIRLFRIEND!
THAT'S NOT WHAT
I'M ABOUT...I'M NOT
SOME MENACING,
LOUD-MOUTHED
CATARACT OF
TESTOSTERONE-
SOAKED
PRIMEVAL CHEST-
POUNDING!

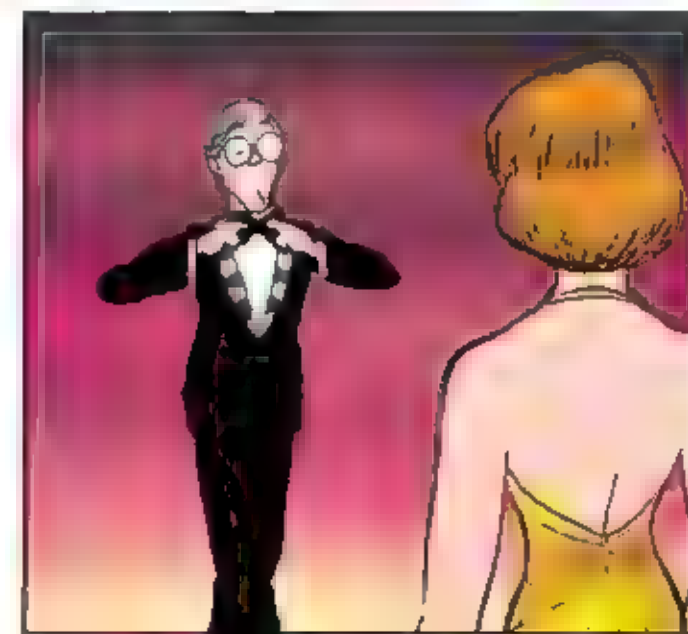
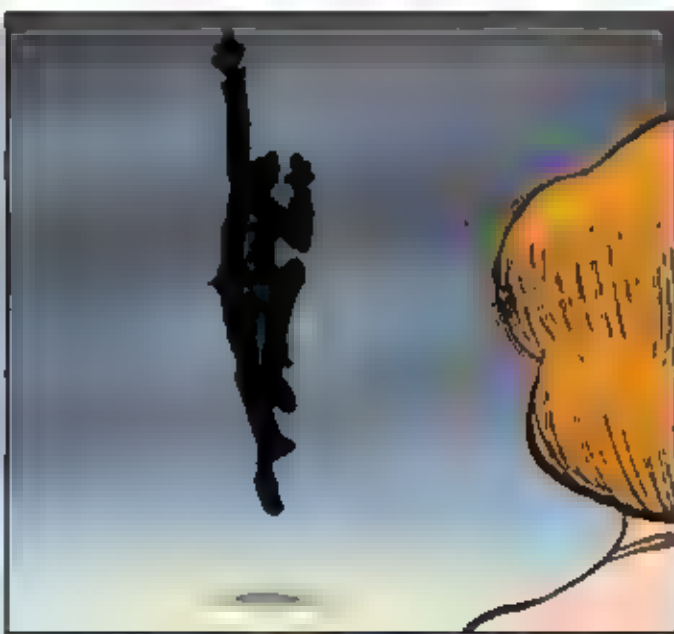
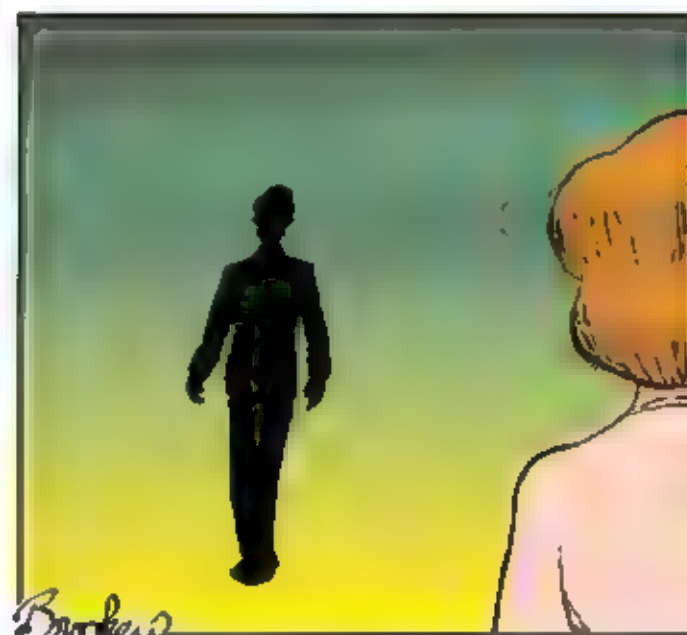
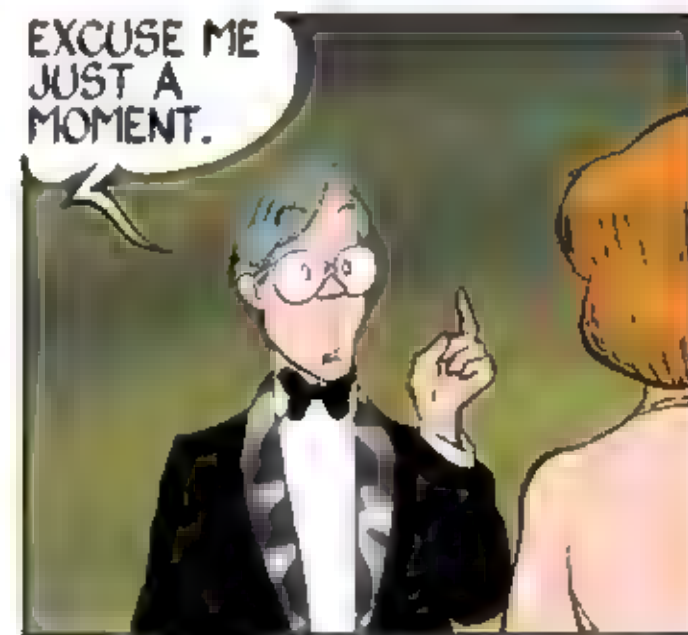










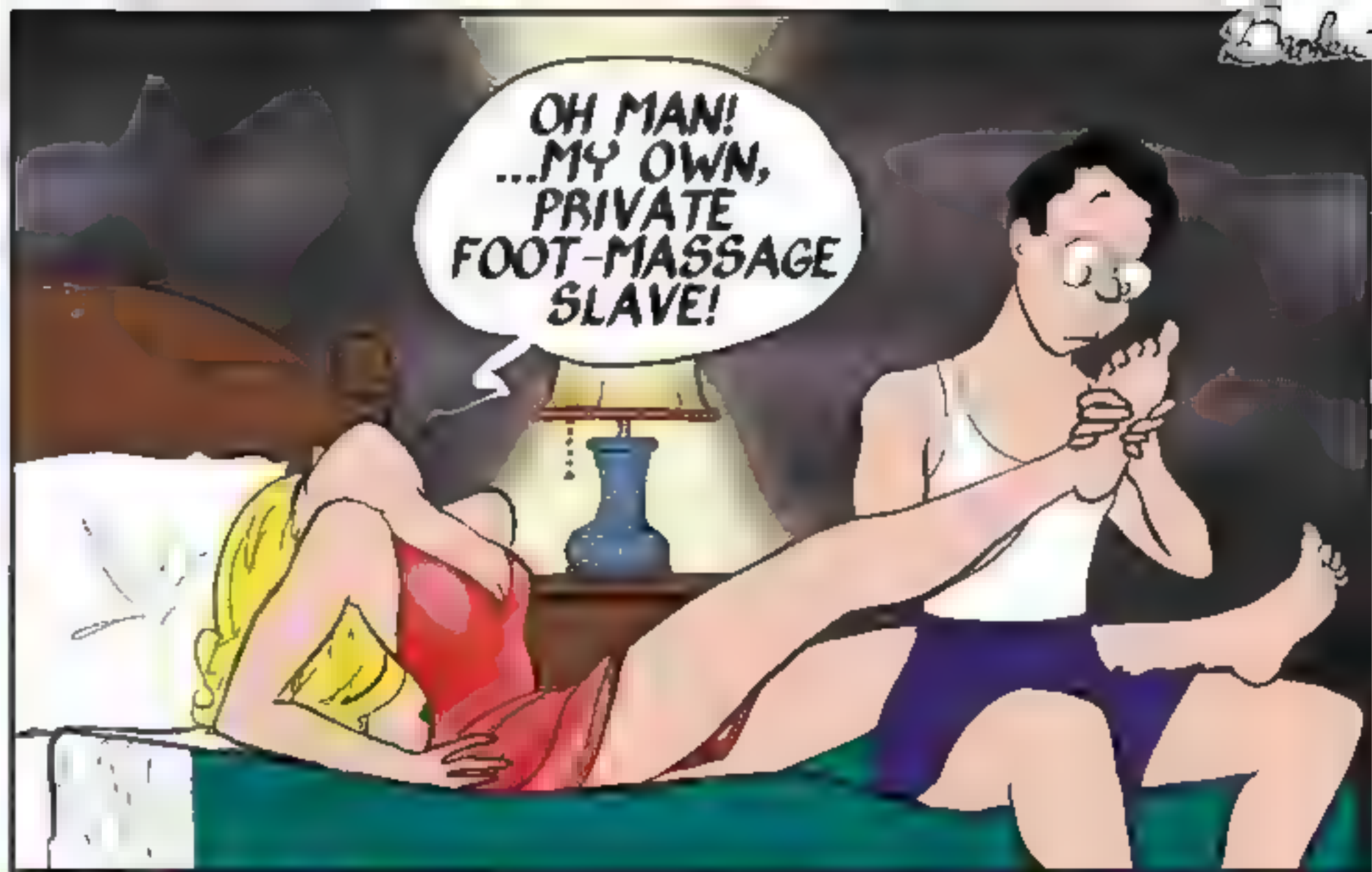


I DON'T KNOW HOW TO
THANK YOU ADEQUATELY
FOR
BUYING
ME THAT
CELLO...
...BUT
I THINK
I KNOW
HOW TO
BEGIN.

12-12



OH MAN!
...MY OWN,
PRIVATE
FOOT-MASSAGE
SLAVE!





I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY
TIMES I CAN THANK YOU
FOR THE CELLO.



12-14

DON'T
WORRY.
I'LL KEEP
COUNT.



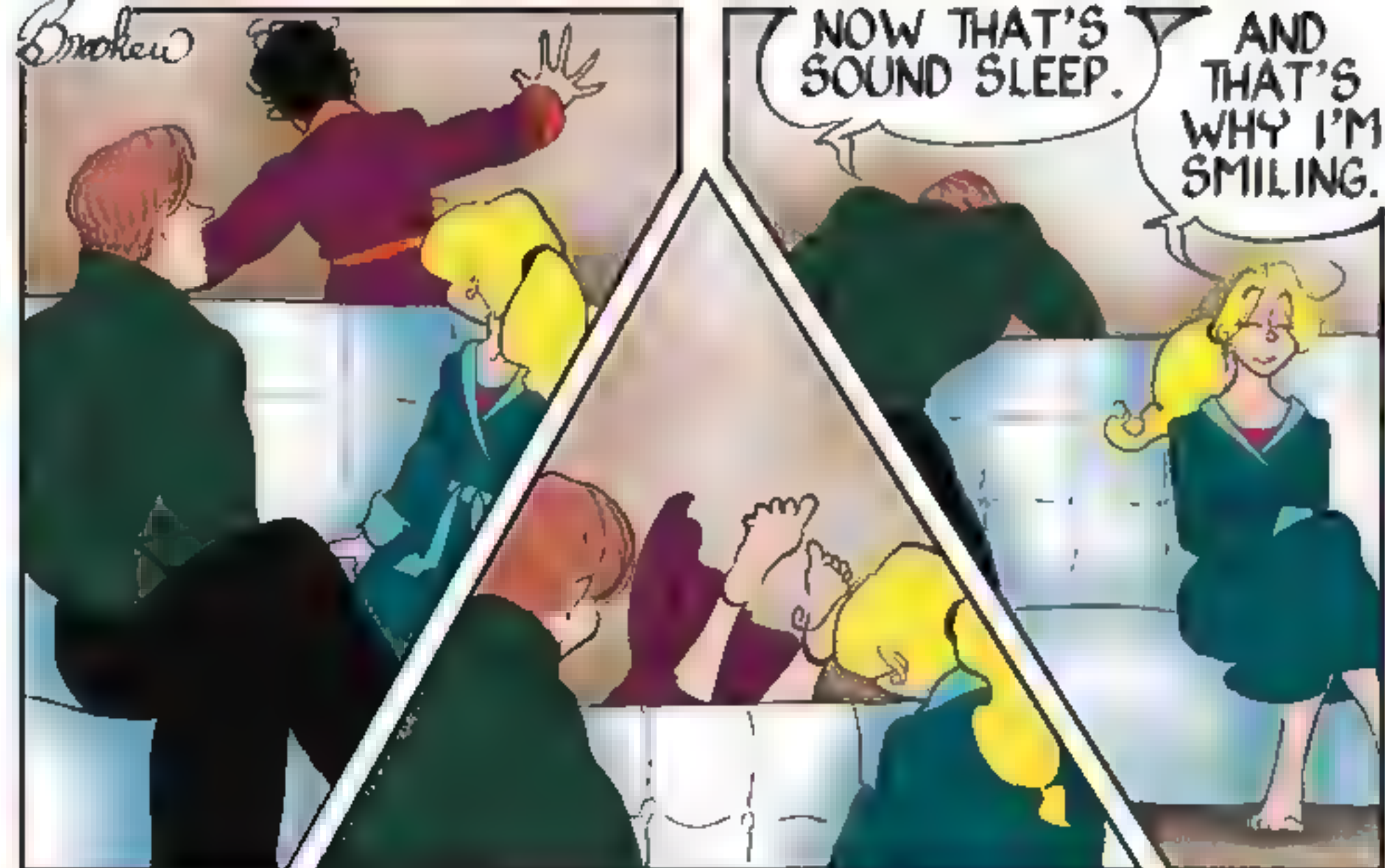
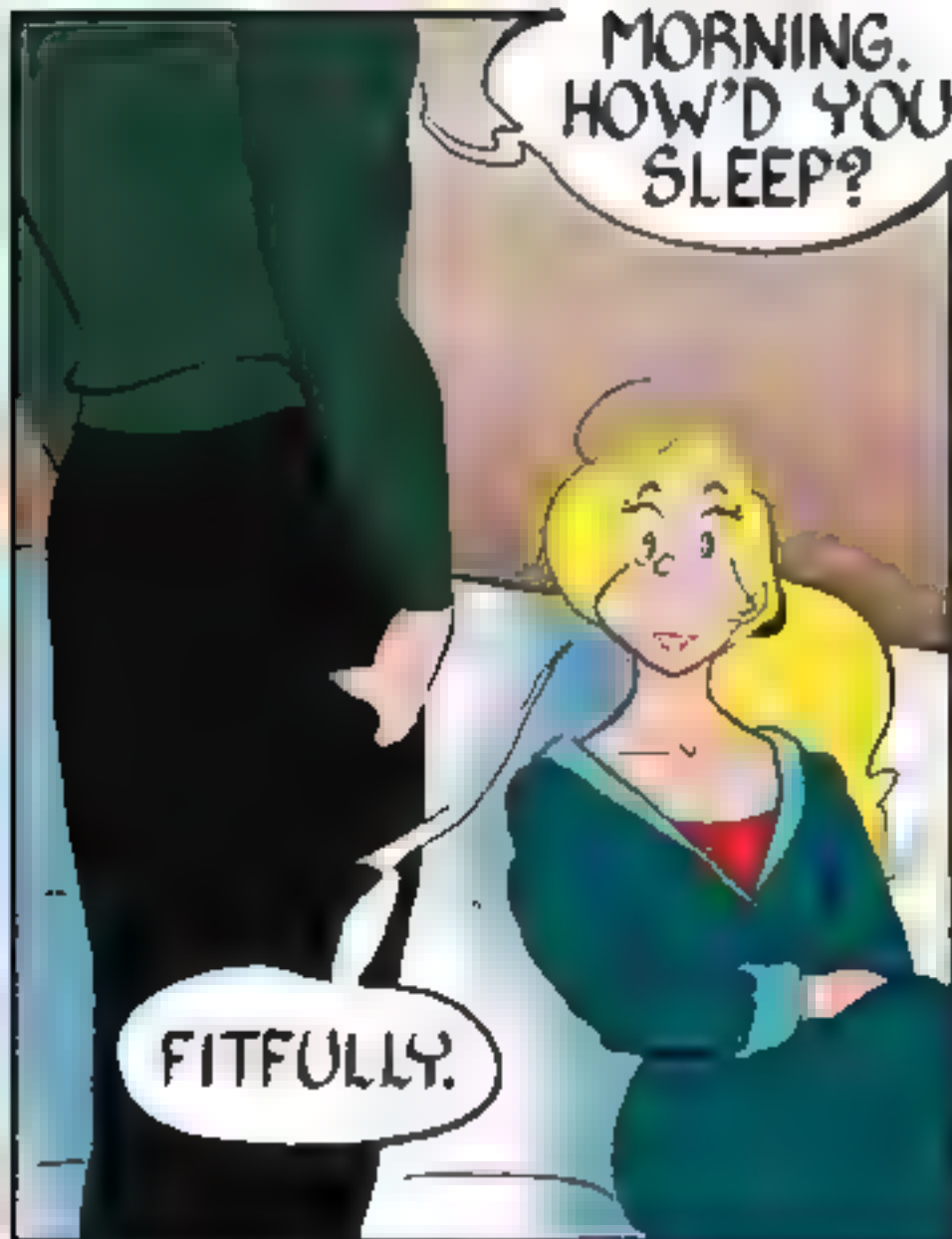
HEY, YOU KNOW THAT
CLAUSE IN THE EDDA BURBER
CONTRACT...THE ONE WE
TOLD HER WAS JUST
BOILERPLATE WE'D
NEVER INVOKE?

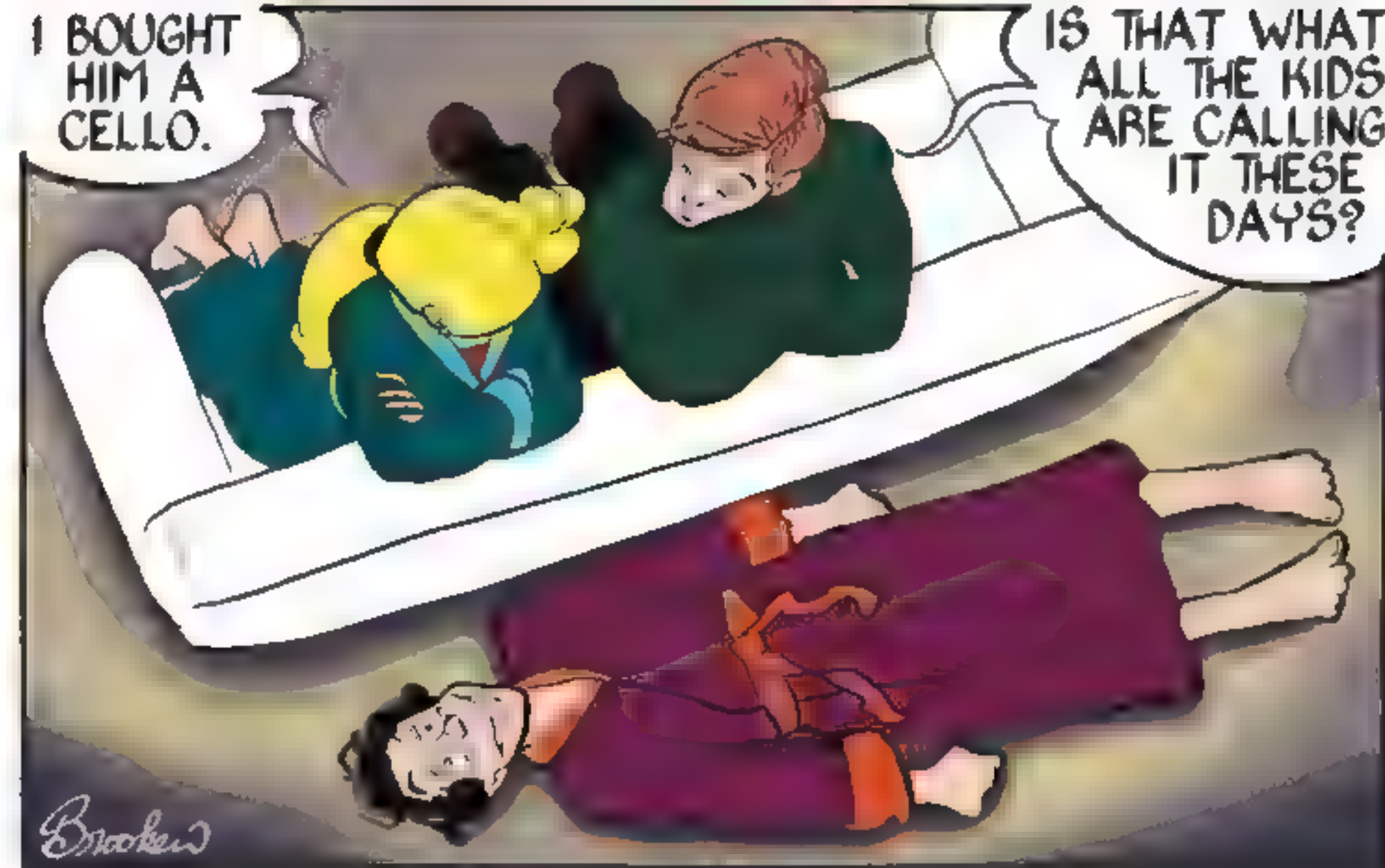
YEAH.

JUST FOR
FUN, LET'S
INVOKE IT.

I GOTTA
HAND IT
TO YOU,
BOB...
YOU'RE
A SCREAM
WHEN
YOU'RE
EVIL.







Ms. Burber, we are invoking Clause 15a of your agreement with Cignet Group Worldwide, which allows us to exploit your services as model for all other Cignet products including, but not limited to, shoes, clothing, swimwear, sleepwear, bras, panties and racy lingene.



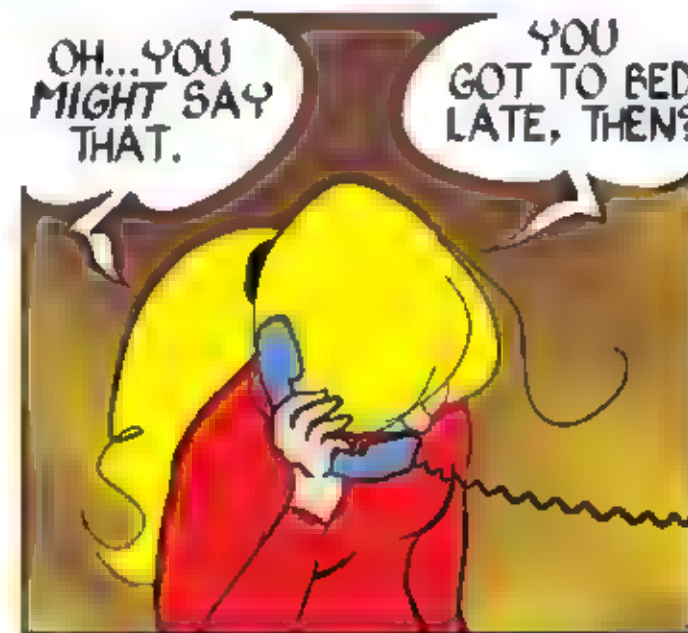


SO, DID YOU
AND ELLIOTT
ENJOY YOUR
EVENING?



IN A...MANNER
OF SPEAKING.

HOW ABOUT
YOU AND
AMOS?
HAVE A
GOOD
TIME?



OH...YOU
MIGHT SAY
THAT.

YOU
GOT TO BED
LATE, THEN?



QUITE THE
OPPOSITE,
...IF YOU...
GET...MY
DRIFT.



AS IT
WERE...



SO TO
SPEAK.

Brooke

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SO, WHAT
DID YOU TWO
TALK ABOUT?

I HAVEN'T
THE
SLIGHTEST
IDEA.



SO, NOT SATISFIED
WITH TRADEMARKING
MY BOTTOM FOR
CIGNET WORLDWIDE,
YOU NOW WANT ME
TO ATTIRE IT IN ITEMS
FROM YOUR VAST
LINGERIE DIVISION...

CLAUSE
15b OF
YOUR
CONTRACT
STATES...

...IN ONLY THE
FILMIEST OF
SCANTIES,
THROWING
POSES OF
TEASING
ABANDON,
RADIATING
ALL THE
INTELLIGENCE
OF A PITHED
TOAD...

AS I SAY,
CLAUSE 15b
STATES...

Broder

LORD SAKES ALIVE,
IT'S LIKE HALLOWEEN!
AND YOU PAY ME FOR THAT!
YOU GUYS ARE SUCKERS!

I DON'T KNOW
ABOUT YOU, NORM...
BUT I DON'T FEEL THE
LEAST BIT RUTHLESS.

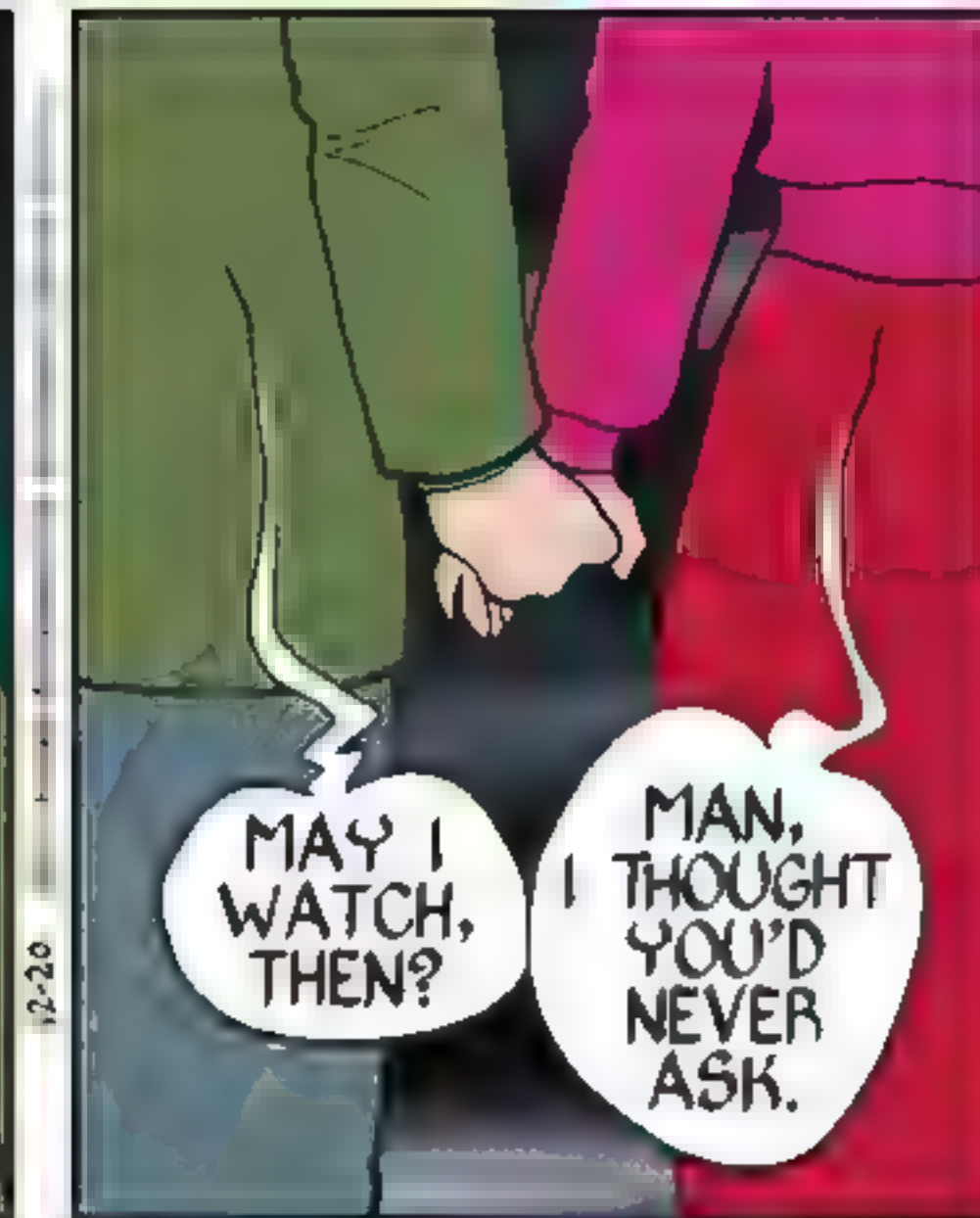
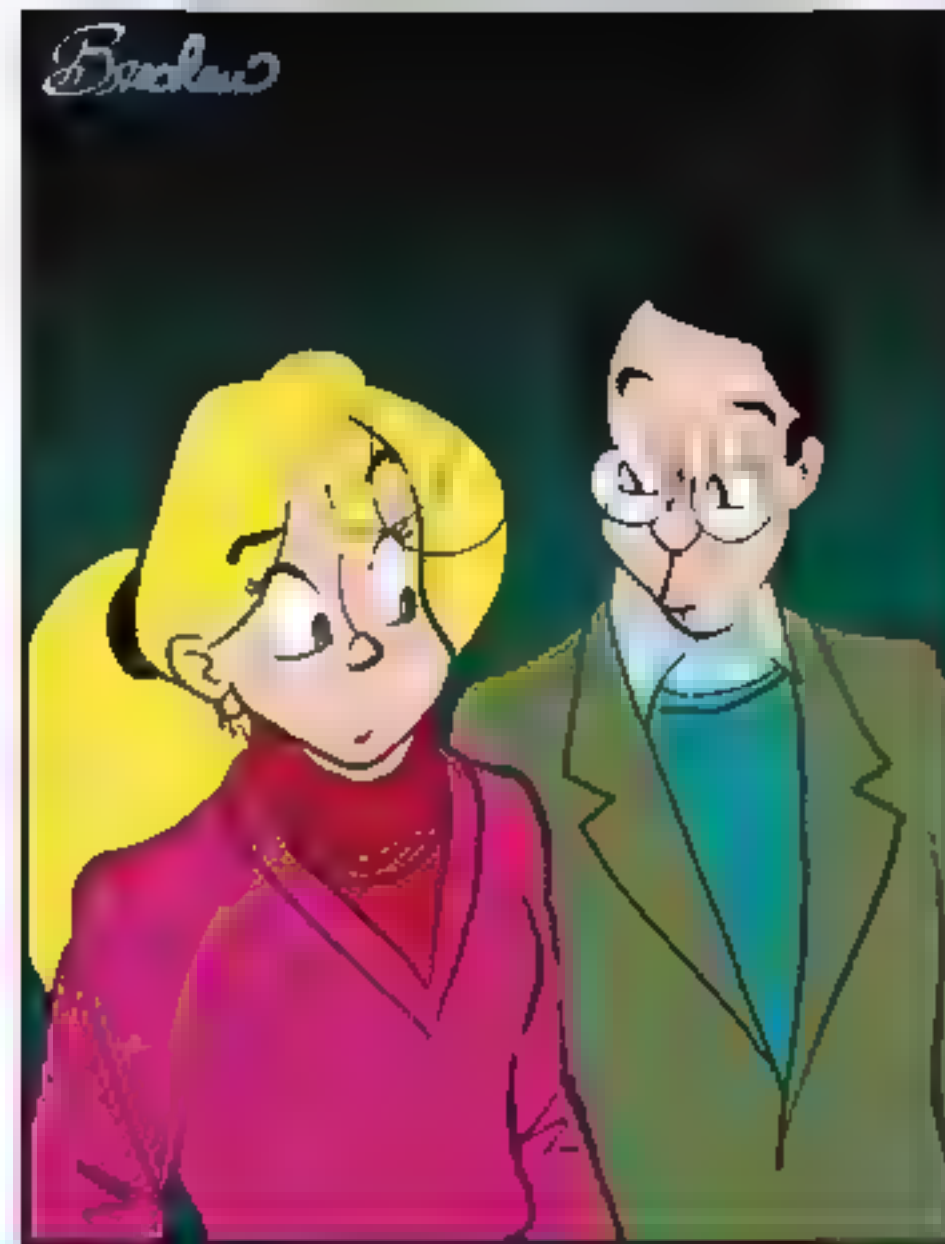
THEY REQUIRE ME TO POSE
AS MARKETING MEAT FOR
LADIES' UNDIES, EVENING
ATTIRE AND WHO KNOWS
WHAT ELSE.



CAN'T
YOU
REFUSE?

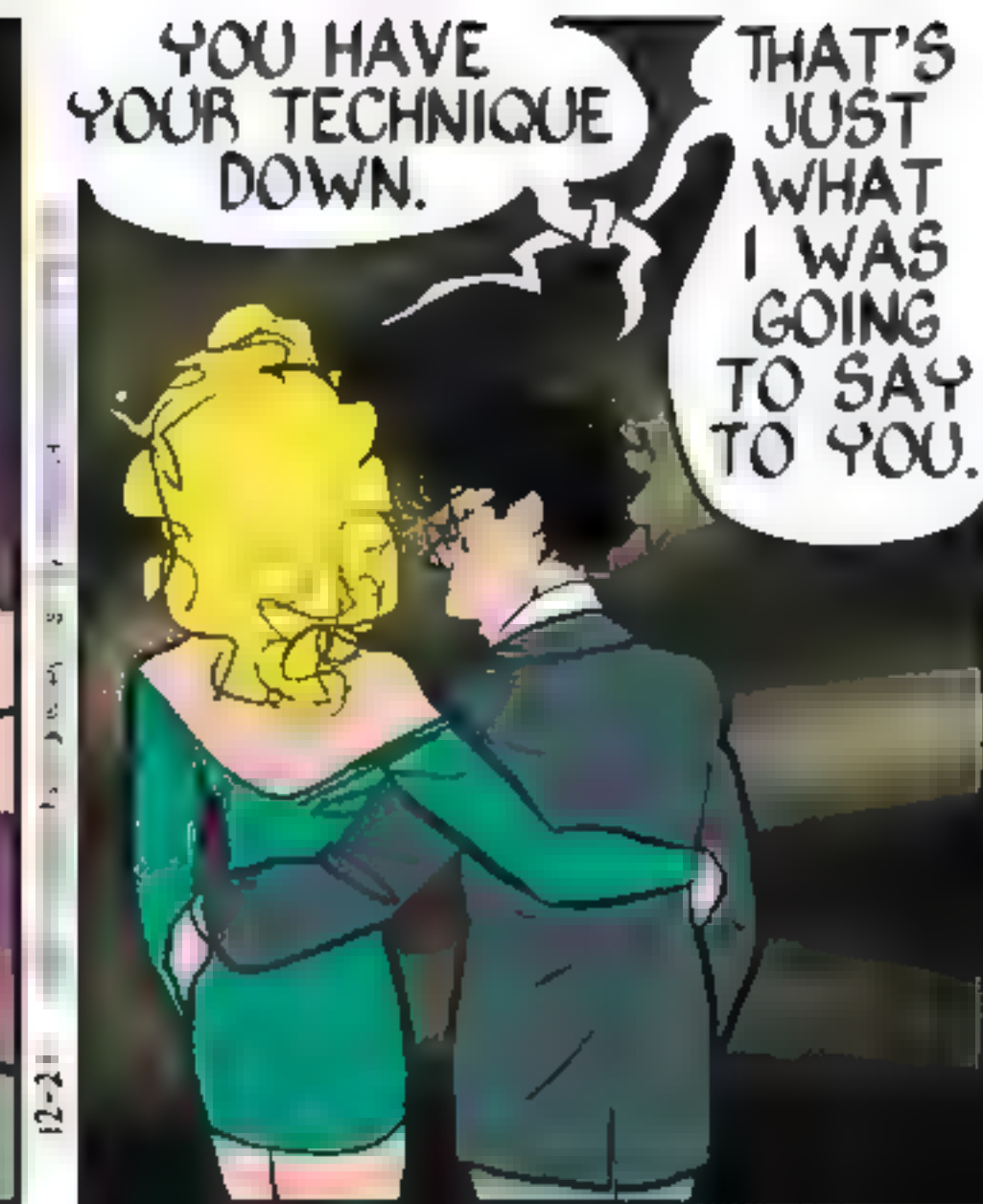
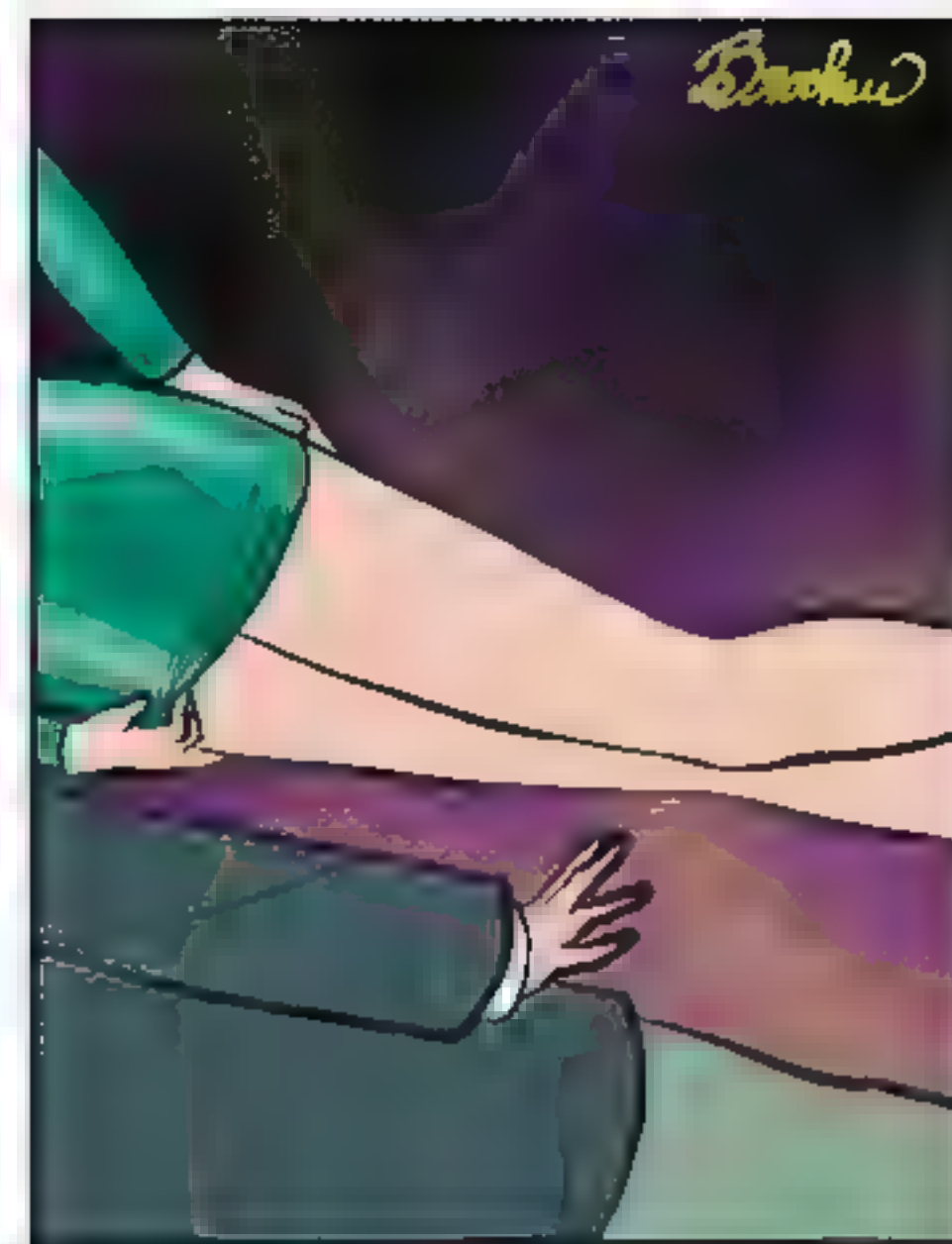
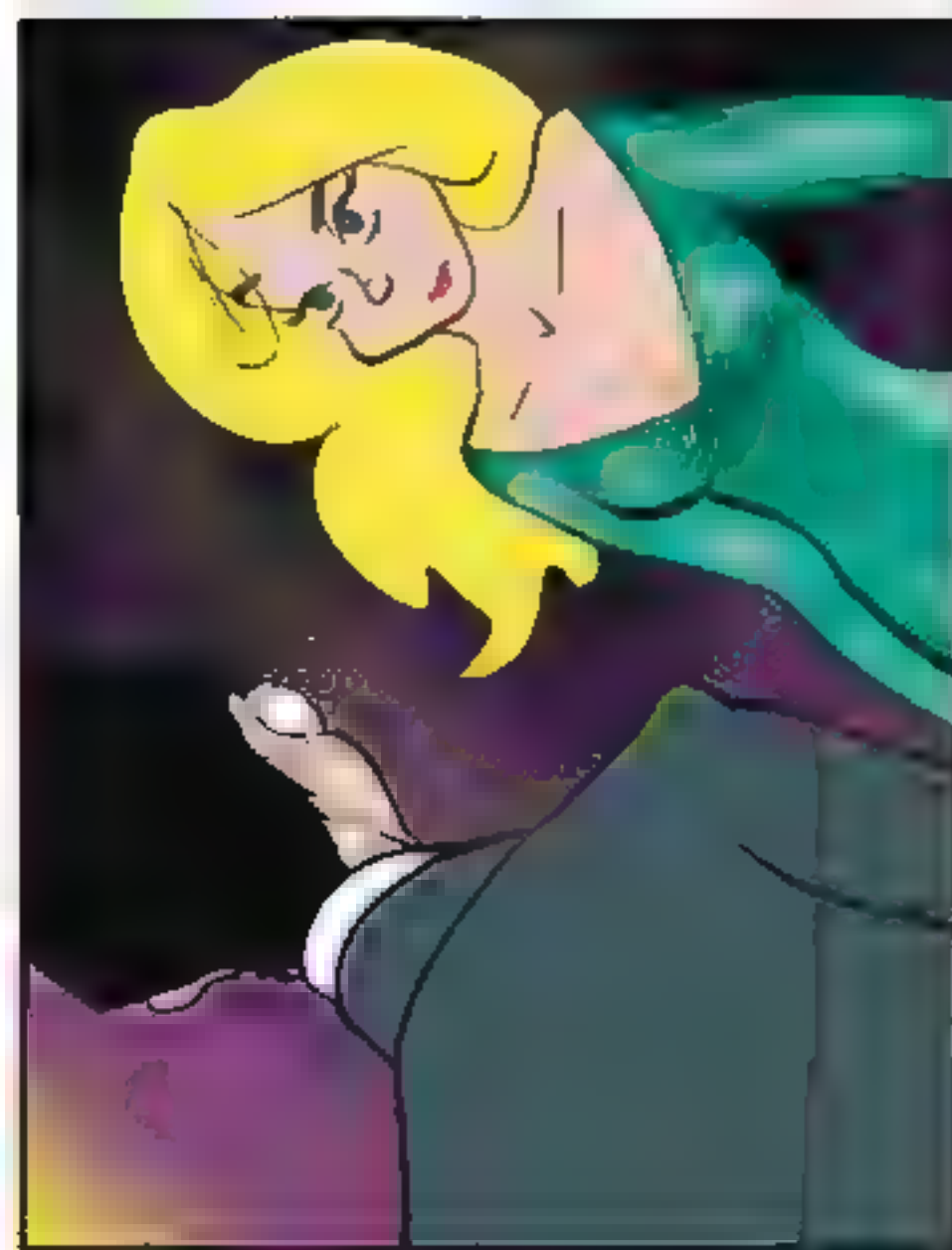
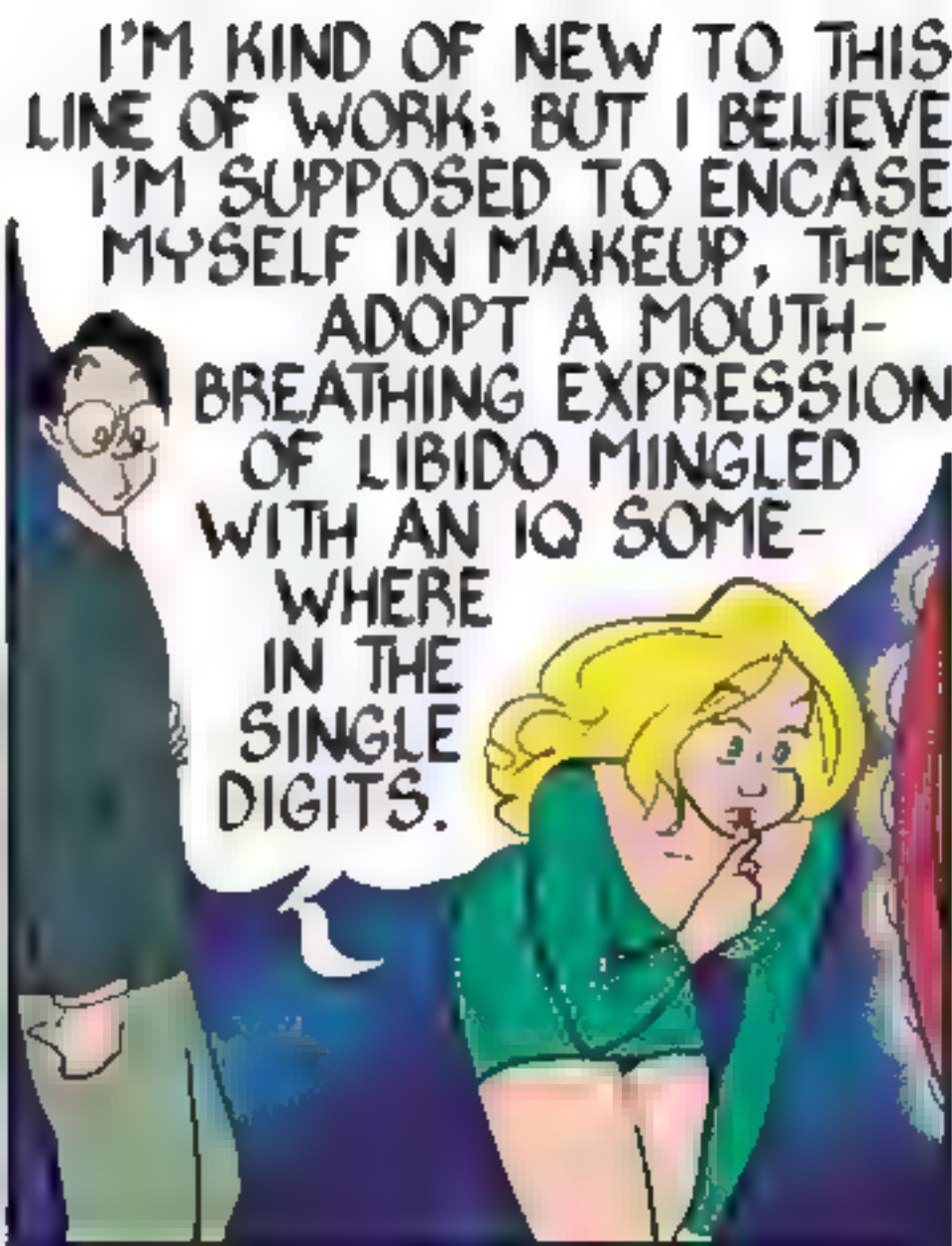


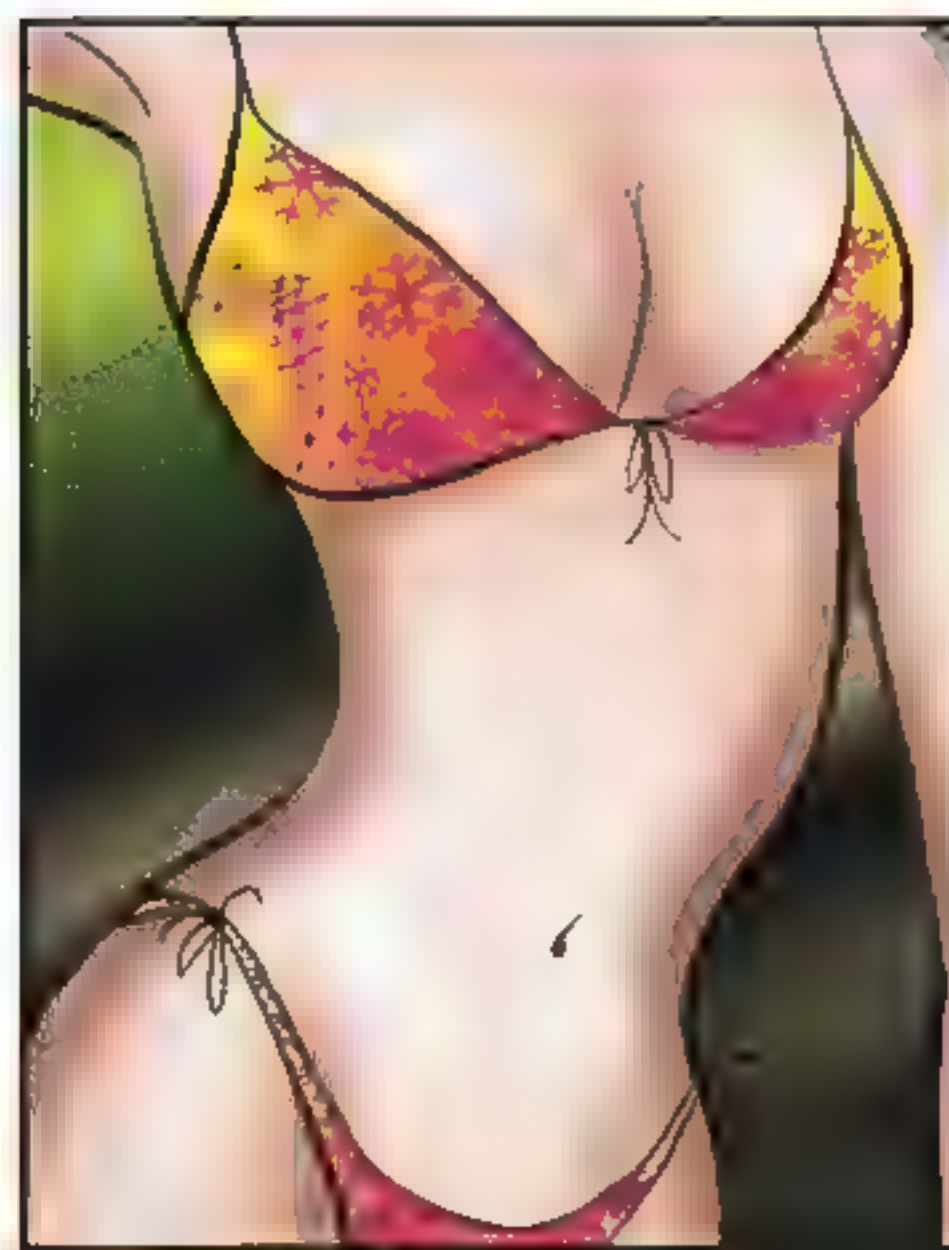
I SIGNED AN
AGREEMENT.
ANYWAY, I
BOUGHT A
CELLO WITH
THE MONEY.



MAY I
WATCH,
THEN?

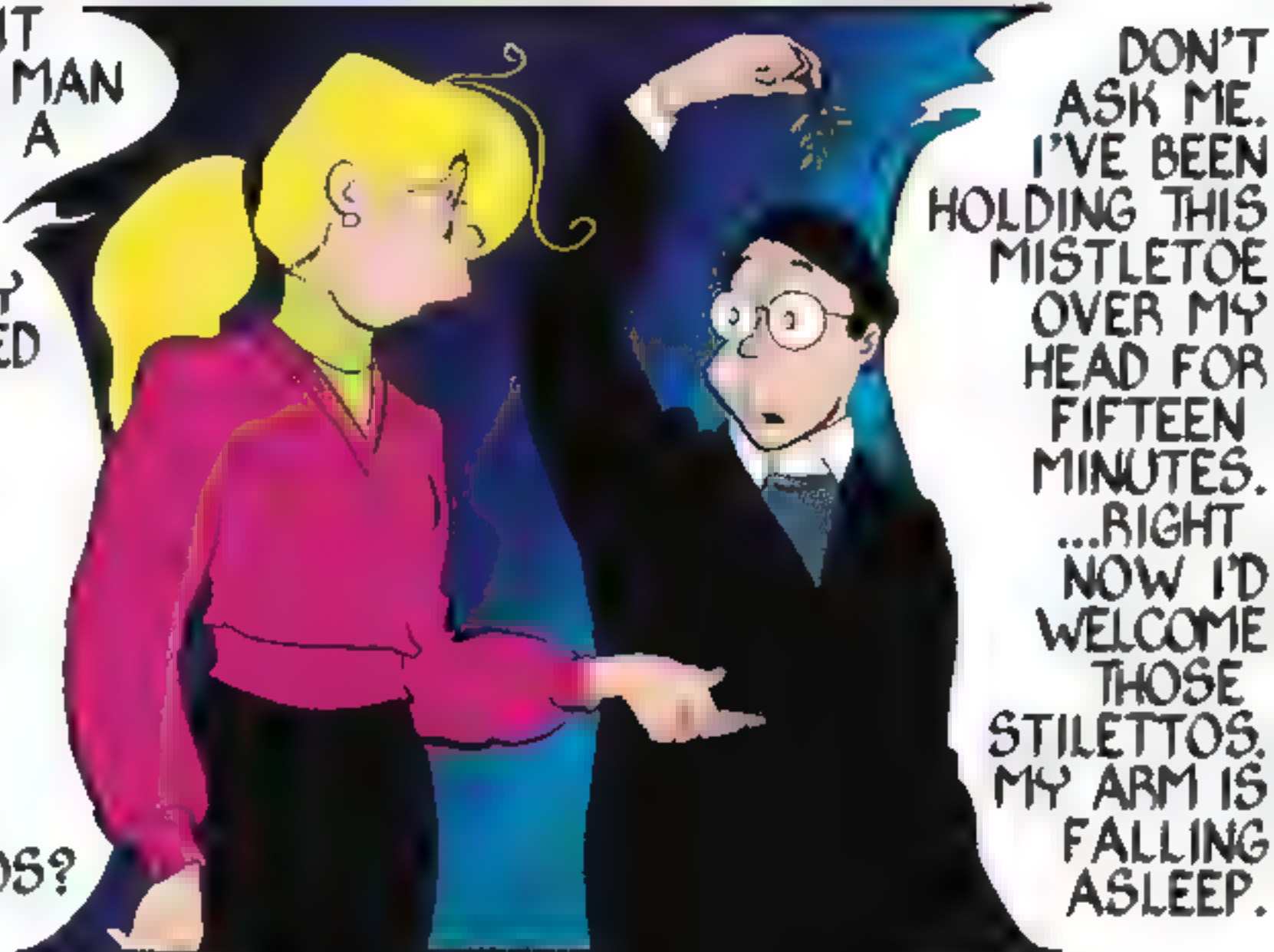
MAN,
I THOUGHT
YOU'D
NEVER
ASK.



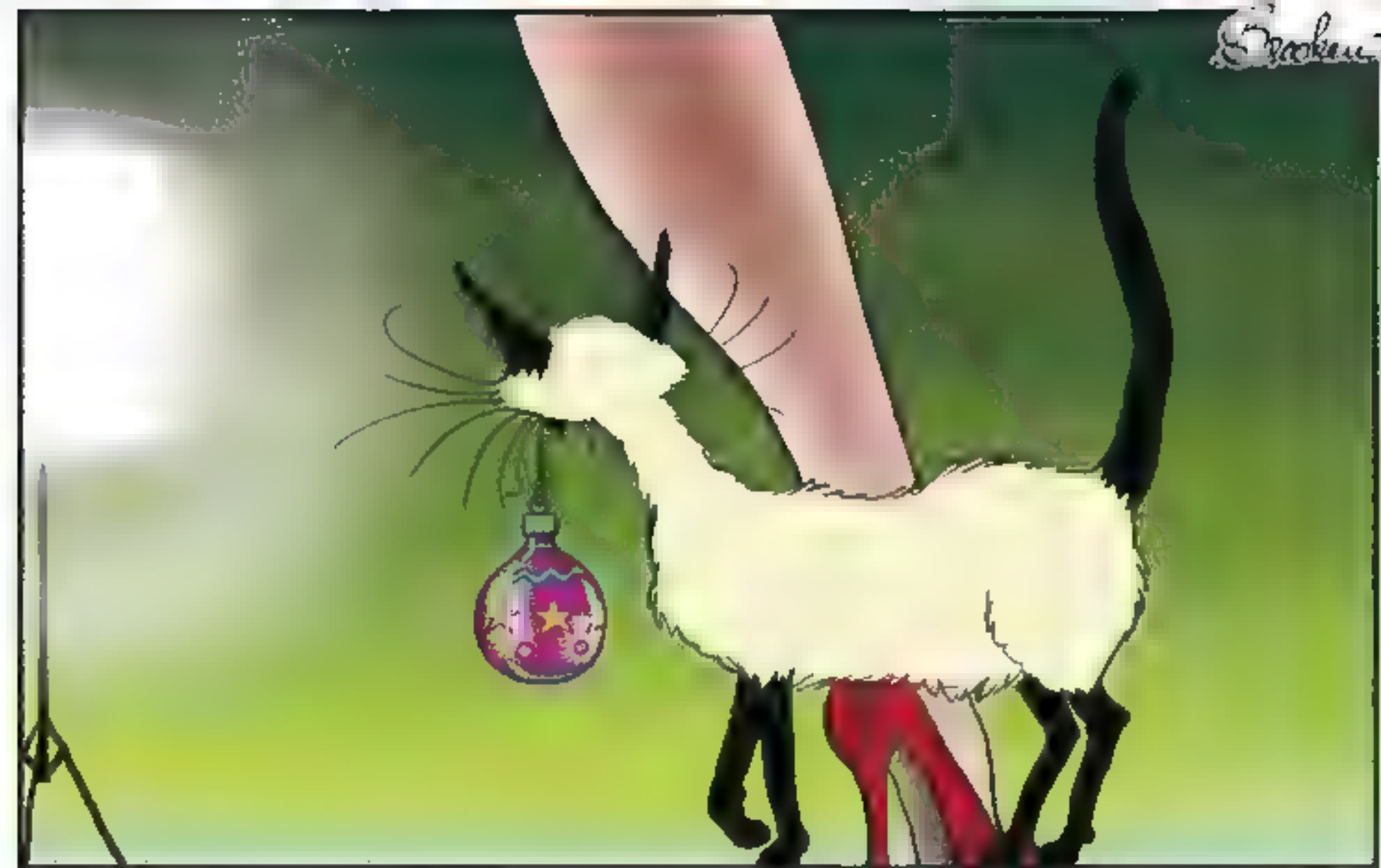


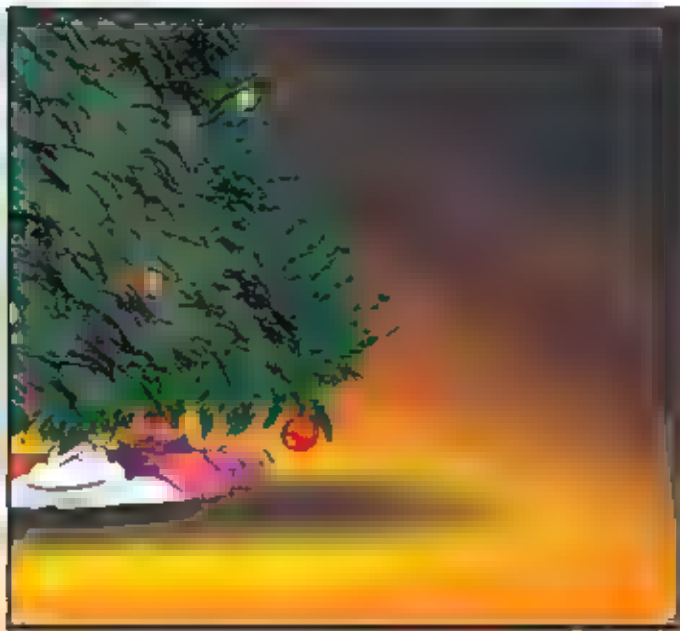


WHY IS IT
THAT NO MAN
BELIEVES A
WOMAN
CAN BE
PROPERLY
CONSUMED
WITH
CARNAL
DESIRE
UNTIL
SHE HAS
BUCKLED
ON A
PAIR OF
SIX INCH
STILETTOS?



DON'T
ASK ME.
I'VE BEEN
HOLDING THIS
MISTLETOE
OVER MY
HEAD FOR
FIFTEEN
MINUTES.
...RIGHT
NOW I'D
WELCOME
THOSE
STILETTOS.
MY ARM IS
FALLING
ASLEEP.





22-25 ©2011 Broder McEweny Dell By Universal Lelick for UFS inc



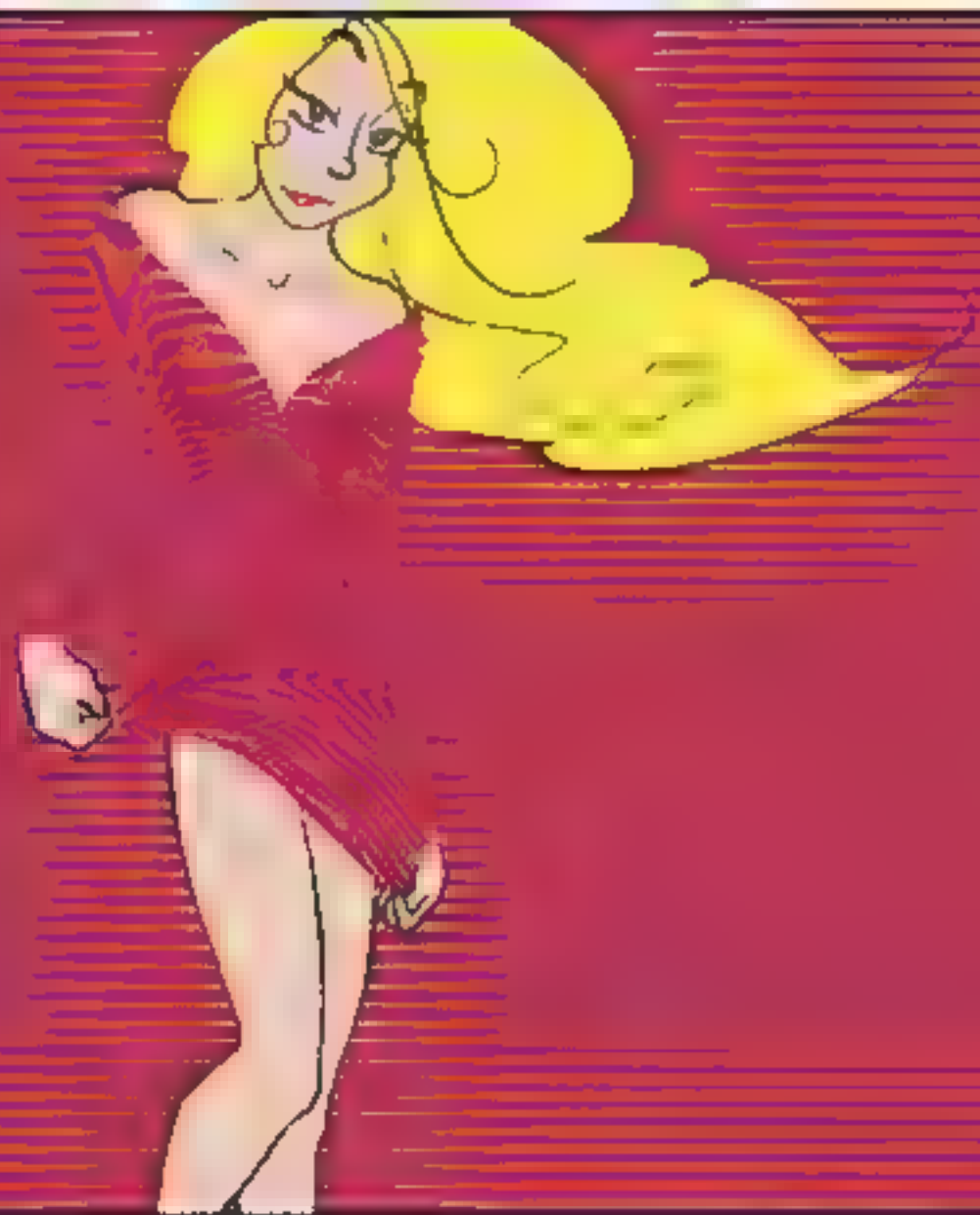
NICOLETTE CIGNET

My favorite woman



NICOLETTE CIGNET

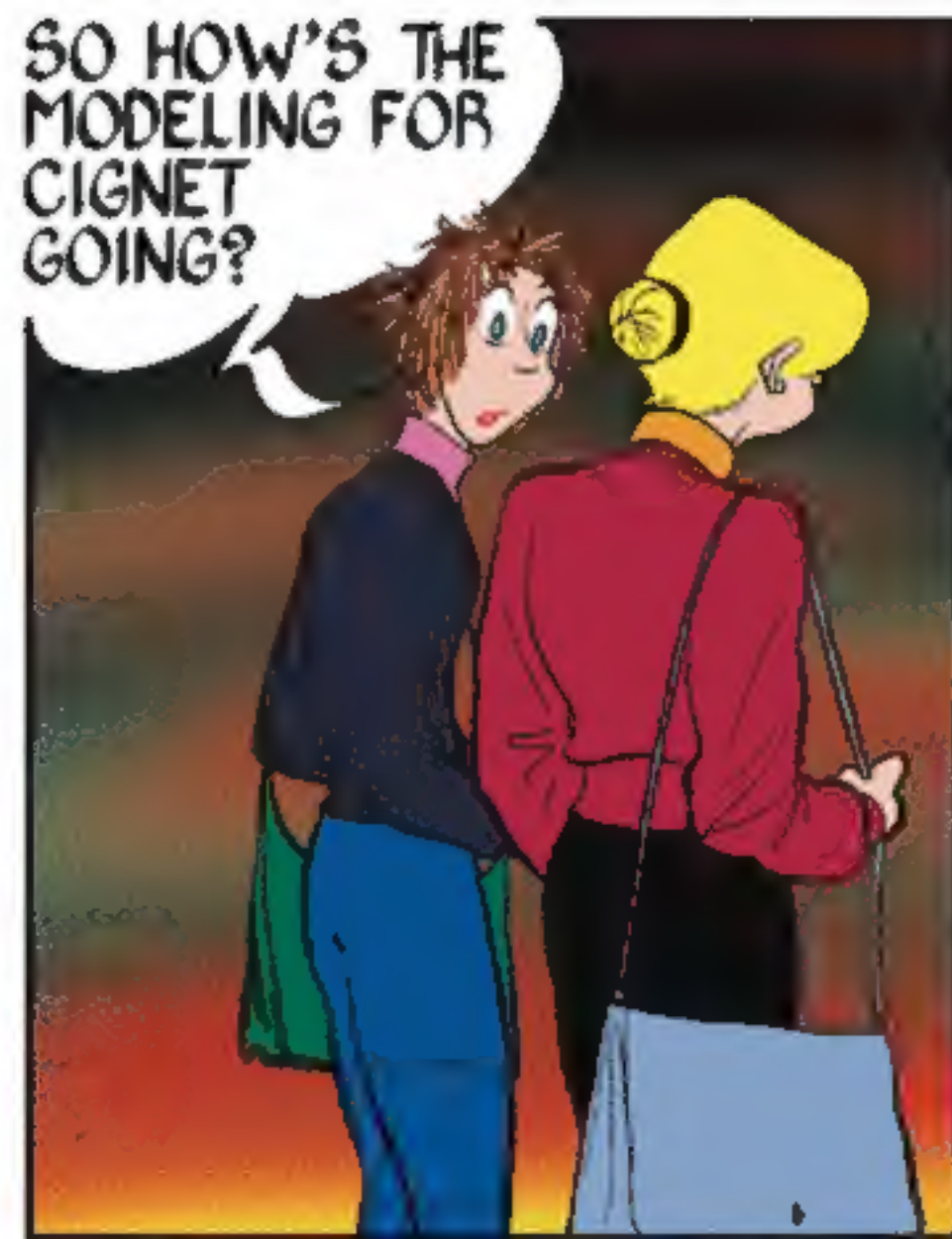
Night attire

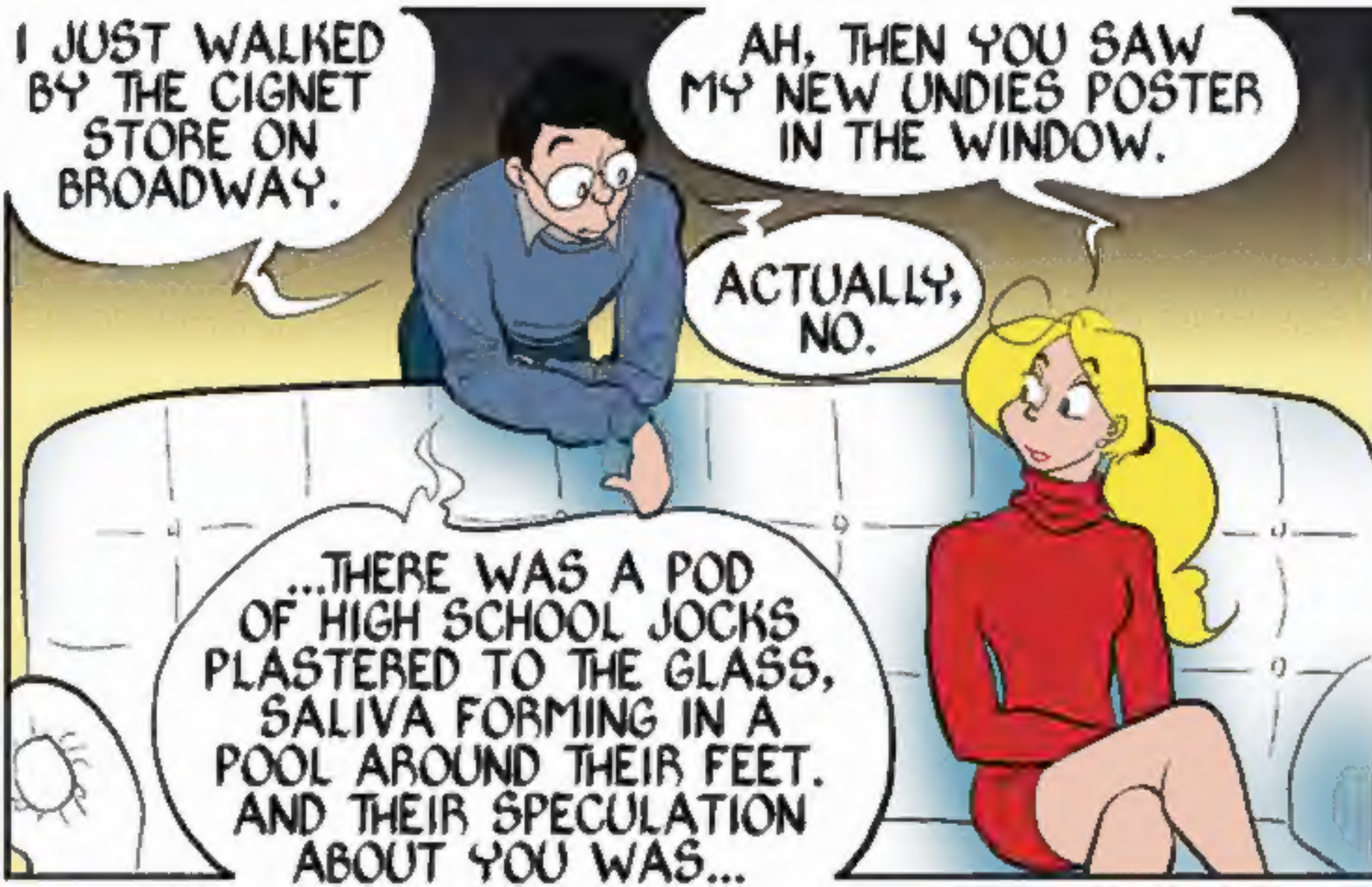


Bruno











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